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WESTERN AMERICANA

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WESTERN TEXAS

THE

AUSTRALIA OF AMERICA;

OR

THE PLACE TO LIVE.

Must I remain forever here penniless and destitute? Is there no spot upon this wide-spread earth whereon I could live and accumulate a little to be called my own?

BY

A SIX YEARS' RESIDENT.

CINCINNATI:
FOR SALE BY E. MENDENHALL,
No. 10 West Fifth Street.
1860.

know where they can go, what they can do, and how they are to do it.

The following pages were not designed so much for the literary world as for the generality of men. Nor were they designed so much to delight as to benefit. They were written principally for those who are and may be looking abroad over the earth for another and better range of operation, or a more accessible grainery of life; and although by the "huge paw" of a working man, the interested reader will not stop to criticize, but will leniently consider that the writer is one of those poor but somewhat observing laborers, who has snatched a moment from time to tell the world of a field that only awaits the sickle to reap its golden harvest.

As I have said, these pages may be considered as having been written to benefit rather than to delight. If the object is attained, what matters it to the reader that the writer is a bungler or anything but an accomplished composer? So, if the reader is of those for whom this work is written, it is hoped that he may not stop to notice faults and errors, but read on and see if there is anything here suggested that may be to his advantage.

A portion of this work was written more than a year since, which will account for any seeming conflicting statements in regard to time.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1860,
By E. MENDENHALL,
In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States for the
Southern District of Ohio.

PREFACE.

To drop the plow, spade, ax, and the like, and travel over the earth until a country is found where these companions of the laboring man need not swing so heavily, where his task need not be so hard, where his condition in life may be easily bettered, and then write home and to all the world, in the shape of a book, and tell poor mankind of such discovery, is what men seldom do. Men may explore the remotest ends of the earth, and draw the heavens near for geographical, historical, and philosophical purposes, and they may crowd the world with their histories and important discoveries; they may write of love, of daring deeds and lofty purposes, and upon almost all the subjects that commonly suggest themselves to the mind; they may peruse the Holy Bible even, and write theological works enough to convert the whole world to Christianity; and yet the poor man may look in vain among all these writings to find how to get his bread and raiment, how the means to educate his children, or how his pecuniary wants are to be supplied, and his earthly career made more pleasant to himself and family.

The world is full of book-producers, but how few address themselves to the legions who are anxious to

CONTENTS.

PAGE.
Introductory, ... 3
Cattle Raising, ... 14
Horse and Mule Raising, ... 29
Breaking Horses, ... 34
Stock Driving, ... 34
Camping and Story Telling, ... 35
Mustanging, ... 37
Catching Wild Cattle, ... 39
Hog Raising, ... 44
Sheep Raising and Wool Growing, ... 48
Importation and Improvement of Stock, ... 63
Goats, ... 76
Alpaca Sheep, ... 80
Camels, ... 81
Jacks and Jennets, ... 82
Dogs, ... 83
Fowls, ... 84
General Remarks, ... 84
The Grasses of Western Texas, ... 87
General Remarks, ... 94
Mexico, its Destiny, etc., ... 99
Lands, Vegetables, Fruits, Wines, Timbers, Flowers, Fencing, Mirages, Grains, Dwellings, and Building Material; Cisterns, Climate, and Health; Yellow Fever, Northers, Sea Breeze, etc., ... 120–144

PAGE.
Rivers, Droughty Section, Seaport and Interior Towns, Grasshoppers, and General Remarks, ... 144
Fish, Oysters, Shrimp, Turtle, etc., ... 156
Game or Animals hunted, ... 156
Game or Birds hunted, ... 162
The Christian Man, ... 169
Merchant and Planter,—Rich Man, ... 170
Speculation vs. Drovers, ... 178
Cattle Shipping, ... 183
Beef Packing, ... 184
Speculation vs. Horses, Mules, etc, ... 185
Land Speculation, ... 186
Wool and Sheep Speculation, ... 187
Mechanics, ... 191
The Poor Man, ... 191
Teachers vs. Schools, Churches, Ministers, etc., ... 202
Kinds of Labor in demand, ... 205
Hard Times and Money Matters, ... 209
Texas Almanac, ... 209
Who and How to go to Western Texas, ... 210
The Beauties of our Land, ... 216
Different Routes to Texas, ... 219
How to find a Location, ... 222
Emigrants' Camp, ... 225
Slavery, ... 227
Relaxation of Energy, ... 229
Encouragement to Home Industry, ... 230
Hopelessly Fallen, ... 231
Chance, ... 233

INTRODUCTORY.

KIND READER, take, if you please, an imaginary flight over the densely populated portions of the civilized world, and consider how many there are who would do well to emigrate.

Ask, in your flight, the legions with whom you meet if they would wish to emigrate, and then calculate the number whose answer was "yes, but where shall I go?" No doubt such an answer, or one to the same effect, would fall from the lips of many thousands; and to many of those whose wish it is to find another and better country, the contents of this book may be somewhat interesting.

How often has the poor discontented man retraced the fruitless efforts of his past, looked around upon his unhappy present, and gazing out upon the dark uncertain future, exclaimed with feelings of anguish, akin to despair, "O, what can I do, or where shall I go? Have I left anything undone that I could do in this unpromising land? Must I remain forever here, penniless and destitute? Is there no spot upon this wide-spread earth whereon I could live and accumulate a little to be called my own?

Is the reader a poor man of family, whose house may be open and almost roofless, and whose children are poorly clad, and the cold blasting snow storms of another winter coming on, and do these shivering children stand around and cry aloud for a father's care? Well might the father say, "This is too much; but O, God, what can I do? Where, O, where shall I go?"

Perhaps the reader is a man of property, and having his credit too far extended, it would now take one half he has got to answer the demands against him, and he may say, "I am already as deeply in debt as my merchant will suffer me to go. There is no hope of making anything here; and if I were to make a desperate effort to dispose of my effects, settle up my business, and start out in the pursuit of a more promising country, where my little balance might accumulate, where my efforts might be crowned with success, where I might live free from debt and the angry demands of creditors, where I might make life more an object and live out a peaceful decline of years, and give my children a liberal and respectable start in the world—where," he may ask, "shall I go to find that country?"

Should chance open my book to the perusal of any whose feelings or situations might answer such or a similar portrayal, then let them read on. Methinks the reader is a young man whose cradle of infancy was no stranger to wealth; whose boyish days were happy in the sportive play of school-mates; whose youthful mind was ever elate with the brightest of prospects, and the green meadows of his father's land bade him smile, be joyous, and hopeful; but by the vicissitudes of fortune he is now rendered poor and unhappy, and would fly away from the taunts and jeers of those who were once proud to be considered his friends and equals.

It may be you are an orphan boy, whose ears are unaccustomed to words of kindness, whose last blessing fell from the lips of a dying parent, and, galling in the chains of discontent, would get away if you but knew where to go. If so, cease the mingling of tears with thy sorrows, and read on.

Possibly you are the resident of some densely-populated country, where every trade, occupation, and pursuit is overdone, and where you can not continue to live with hope of success in any business that you may be qualified to carry on.

Are you the daring sailor, for whom the perils and hardships of the sea have no further charms, and having furled the sail and bid adieu to hoarse commands, would you now seek that peace and profit which the billows of the ocean have failed to give? Have the prayers of an anxious and loving wife, whose mind has already too long dwelt upon the watery graves of the deep, induced you to remain upon land?

Perhaps you are the friend of some one whose wish it is to leave behind the land of his nativity, and look for wealth, honors, or contentment in another? If so, please read on; and should you deem it worth your while, call the attention of your friend to this book.

Are you the laboring man of intellect, whose only want to render you worthy of your immortal nature, is leisure? Would you burst the fetters of poverty while yet in the vigor of life, in anticipation of declining years, and accumulate a little to smooth the roughness of cares in your old and feeble days?

Are you the emigrant from eastern or European shores, now landing upon American soil, and would you find a beautiful climate and most excellent locality for your future abode in this great land of liberty? Or are you the farmer's son, whose minor days are quite or nearly out, and would you now mingle with the tide of emigration, taking with you your habits of industry, to some distant country to work out your destiny of weal or woe? Be you who you may, if your future is unpromising,—if you have carefully looked around you and can nowhere discover anything that merits attention, or, in other words, if you would better your fortune, read on.

Be you who you may—Briton, German, Frenchman, American, or what not—whether living upon the snow-clad hills of New England, the lake-washed shores of the Canadas, the hights of the Highlands, or in the valley of the Rhine—if you are discontented with your present abode, and are determined to seek a fortune or better your condition in another part of the world, then patiently read on. It may be that some of you will be interested. It may be that some of you will be benefited.

> There is a land where the grass is ever green.
> A land where a beggar seldom is seen.

I would not create an unnecessary excitement; I would not lead one single human being astray; I would not induce the rugged son to leave the aged and helpless parent to mourn the departure of his undutiful child; I would not have any one believe that anywhere upon the face of this wide-spread earth there is a country the spontaneous growth of which renders the labor of man unnecessary; but I would have thousands and tens of thousands of human beings believe that if they were in a country with which I am acquainted and about which I am going to write, they would be by far better off than they now are or can ever expect to be by remaining where they are. I have no newly discovered gold or silver mines, no second California or Australian gold excitement upon which to enlarge, but I have a country, dear reader, of which to tell you, where, if some men could be, the prattling of their babes and the music of birds would be sweeter to their ears; where the frown upon their brows would involuntarily dispel, and the tears of their children would no longer come forth from the suffering of cold, nor mingle with the frosts as they fall; a country where a man can labor with the hope of some day being lord of the soil; where a man can be a man, not a dog; a country where now and for many years to come there can be a glorious investment of a small or large capital safely made; a country where, having myself resided for six long years, traveling it over and over, I have never yet seen a public beggar or a person who lived by appealing to the sympathy of others. It may be that others have; but I can safely say that such people are hardly known in this fortunate country. A country, in short, where to my knowledge there are plenty of men who are worth from ten to one hundred thousand dollars, and who, but a few years ago, had hardly a dollar they could call their own, and many of whom, had they remained in their native countries, would most undoubtedly have remained there forever poor, and at this time getting their daily bread with their daily labor, instead of being as they now are, among the wealthiest of this naturally great and delightful country, doing what they do at their leisure or pleasure.

Now, kind reader, unfold, if you please, the map of the United States, and upon its southern portion you will find a country or state that, for some reason or other, is called Texas. Here is the promised land; here is the Lone Star; here is the Australia of America.

WESTERN TEXAS;

OR,

THE PLACE TO LIVE.

IT may be thought that through views of advantage, for the gratification of fanciful display or some reason or other, the writer is overdoing the thing and placing this section of country far beyond any real excellency or advantages that it possesses over other countries or neighboring states; but it is not so. Upon my word and honor, and as God is my witness, I feel from the bottom of my heart every word that I have said, and shall conscientiously continue my subject, taking with me to the end majestic truth as the guiding meteor of my pen. O how I feel, not the want of sincerity, but the want of ability, to enable me to do it justice.

Texas! Man, with all his ideas of perfection, might look in vain for a land more favored by creation and the government of man than this; and yet, comparatively speaking, her habitations are mere dots upon her surface, while in many parts of the world people are cramped up for the want of room. Here the denizen goes forth and commits to flames the vast surplus of spontaneous growth, while the people of other countries are carefully storing up every blade and spear that the soil, pushed to its greatest capacity, is capable of producing. Here the minds of men, ever so free and easy in regard to the cares of life, are revolving in schemes of speculation, and around them their cattle are cropping the luxuriant grass the twelve-month through, while in other countries the eternal routine of laborious preparation in summer for the necessities of tedious winters, render these, both the minds and bodies of men, forever enslaved; never dreaming that these constant cares of their lives, necessary upon a stingy and contracted plan, are robbing their very souls of their beauty; and their minds forever enslaved for the requirements of the body, never drink from the fountains of thought, which are boundless and free.

Let me introduce to our shores a stranger from across the ocean or the Gulf of Mexico. When landing, he is generally unfavorably impressed. He has cherished an idea that soon the land of Texas will stand up in ready relief to his anxious eye. He looks around in vain for that of which he had dreamed, and inquires of the country. Hearing its many praises, he loses no time in preparation for some part of the interior. He *stages* out over, what seems to him, an endless level. Soon herds of deer are bounding away before him. He sees cattle in every direction, and wonders at the immense waste of luxuriant grass. Although not satisfied with this broad level so destitute of noisy creeks and shady groves, he begins to be somewhat reconciled. Now the timely setting of the sun, casting her golden rays upon the dark green foliage of the earth, reminds him of the approach of night, and that here, as elsewhere, man must rest, eat, and sleep. Under the branches of a live oak or cluster of trees, not far from a lagoon or pool of water, he turns in to answer the demands of his nature. He sleeps upon the ground, in the open air, 'neath the dew-catching branches, and dreams of all things glad and free. The music of the night, and the first greeting of his ears at the dawning of day, are the ever changing notes of the mocking-bird. He rises to welcome back the beauties of day, and, being refreshed, starts on his way. The scenes of to-day are those of yesterday, but toward night, in the distance, are signs of elevation, and at the close of day, upon hill-tops, from whence the view is delightful, that overlook the travels of the day and the sublimity of the distant plain; close by the music of dancing little waters on their way below, lull our traveler to the sweet embrace of refreshing sleep. The arms of Morpheus again relax their hold, and the traveler awakens to a conciousness of the rich comings that must soon follow the now gray lights of the east, happy tidings of day. The glorious orb appears, and here are not only beauties for the eye, charms for the ear, and sweet fragrance for the smell, but a feast for the mind. Visions of happiness and hopes of fortune are now playing their parts around his joyful heart. Again upon his way, the surface now being hilly and undulating, and the traveler, divested of the last inkling of prudence, is eager to drink deep of these moistenings of the soul. Wondering on at the continued increase of natural beauty, unconsciously, upon some elevation he is now fixed, as it were, and naught but his eyes and inner faculties are moving. He looks and looks, wonders and wonders, and finally the tongue, ay, the very lips of the soul, burst forth: "Can it be that these broad unbounded meadows are perpetually green? can it be that the sweet fragrance of these flowers, whose beauty can only be seen with beauty's eyes, are unceasingly mingled with the air as if forever to delight the breath of man and charm the flight of the honey-bee? and are these birds of so many colors forever so sweetly musical? Is it possible that these herds of cattle, horses, mules, and sheep, the swiny tribe and all, live here the twelve-month out without the aid of man? and could man live here throughout all the variations of heat and cold, with only the trees to shelter him, and all this in the United States of America, the renowned land of freedom! Am I dreaming, or is this really so?"

Such words as these will give the reader but a faint idea of the surpassing beauty and delightful appearance of this country, from early spring until summer; and in the dead of winter the stranger, from a snowy country, would be equally delighted; although the flowers of the forests and prairies are not so plentiful and fragrant as in summer, yet he is here and can realize the comfortable sleeping out of doors at a time when he knows that frosty snows are covering the land of his distant home, and can see, as in summer, the cattle living upon the grass of the prairies uncared for by man. The traveler may go on for hundreds of miles, in different directions, penetrating the mountains, if he pleases, continually absorbed with the beauty, fertility, and healthful appearance of the country, and particularly carried away with the idea that the doors of wealth are here wide open to every one who will devote his best efforts to the improvement of the advantages that here lay before him.

It is sometimes amusing to look over and consider the extravagant paper calculations of new-comers in regard to what can be done in Texas at the stock-raising and farming business—*i. e.*, as they say, and with much justness, too, if men would only work one half as hard here as they do where I came from, considering themselves proof against the habits of idleness, or *Texas fever*, as the saying is here, to which many of the older settlers of the country have become addicted. The time was, and it is the case now in many places in western Texas, that men, by stepping to their doors or outside their camps, could shoot down a fat buck or doe, the meat of which is excellent, and the hides of which, by a simple process of tanning, with which all old Texans are familiar, make most durable clothes. So it is not so strange that old settlers here, who were once so nearly cut off from the older states by so limited a communication with them, should have contracted habits of idleness, since most all they could do that then seemed advantageous to them, was to kill deer and other game for their meat and peltry, and fight Mexicans for their independence.

For my part, I would withhold that severity of censure that the old Texan very often seems to deserve for his relaxation of energy and loose morality. I would say to the old veteran, 'All honor to you for your services in liberty's cause, and happy may you live and die. But since such exertions as yours and your childrens' seem to prove inadequate to the development of the resources of the excellent country for which you fought and conquered, you certainly will have no objections to seeing this country inhabited by those who will turn its rich soil to the greatest advantage, and its extensive productions to the good of mankind.

The state of Texas is a planting and stock-growing country; its western portion being better adapted to the growing of stock, and not so well adapted to the growing of cotton and the great staples of the south; the valleys or bottoms of its principal rivers, however, are fine cotton and sugar-producing lands, and a large amount of these commodities are now produced and exported from the state. Their production, however, is confined principally to eastern Texas or the bottoms of the Colorado, and portions of the state east of this river. Many of the river bottoms west of this, however, produce more or less cotton, and some of them a large amount of it. But it is more the southern and western portions of the state, generally, as well as the stock-growing business of Texas, that are here to be considered.

CATTLE RAISING.

For anything like a real picture of many parts of this country, my pen might labor in vain. I can only wish that the reader might travel it over, as I have done, stand upon its elevations, and contemplate its beautiful form and the rich mantle that God has spread over it. How often have I wished that the farmers of the cold country, where I was raised, and the cold and snowy countries where I have been, could travel over western Texas, taking with them a knowledge of its climate and soil, its different kinds of grasses, and particularly a knowledge of the stock-growing business of the country. It is not so difficult for me to imagine how those lords of the soil, in summer, and snow-drifts in winter, would feel, or what the impressions of such an excursion, accompanied with vivid recollections of their frosty homes, would be; but to spread out upon paper words that would justly convey my ideas of those feelings and impressions, would be futile for me to attempt.

Would that the representatives of such feelings and situations as those that, in my beginning I attempted to portray, could only know how well this country would be adapted to their peculiar wants—and O that thousands of unfortunate men, women, and children could exchange their present unhappy abodes for a home in this beautiful and most delightful country.

Who that has a soul, or that can feel his accountability to his God, would not open the channels of alleviation to unhappy and suffering humanity!

There is, across the deep, a country that resembles much, in many things, the one about which I am going to write; the pursuits and productions of which.

o a great extent, are the same—Australia. She, like Texas, is a great stock-growing country. She has been more fortunate than Texas in some respects. The first cattle taken to Australia were of English breeds, and the constant importations from England have since kept up and improved the cattle and other stock of this most excellent grazing country. The cattle of Texas are inferior to those of Australia; but their vast, luxuriant range makes them thrifty and profitable to their owners. I believe they are a race of Spanish and French cattle—or I can safely say that they are generally Mexican, Louisiana, and Missouri cattle. Although they are generally rough, and not compact and heavy enough, they are large and rangy, and are fine cattle upon which to improve. But, withal, beautiful droves of horses can now be herded upon our Texas prairies.

The first sheep introduced into Australia came from those countries where improvements in fine stock of all kinds has long since been a great object. Australia's adaptation to sheep and fine wool growing was finally discovered, and her importance as a great wool-producing colony soon demanded the attention of the English government, and from its patronage and encouragement it is now the greatest and finest wool-growing country in the world. But is there no country that is yet to be her compeer! Has America no Australia to furnish her looms and enable her manufacturers to compete with those of England! Has America no country where wool can be produced sufficiently cheap and in such abundance as to place it beyond the control of the speculator, and counteract, in its production and manufacture, the pauper labor of Europe! Certainly she has; and more than this, she has a country that will soon furnish her millions of consumers—the poor, laboring men and all—

with excellent beef and other meats at reasonable rates; and ability to produce her mules—that most excellent cultivating animal—so reasonably low that they will be within the reach of all the farmers; and this country, or part of the United States, is Texas, and particularly western Texas.

There are now about two millions of cattle in Texas. Their average value per head is about six dollars. The raising of beef and meat cattle is an extensive and profitable business in this country. At this moment I am thinking of a man, an Irishman, who has [illegible] thousand head of these cattle. He lives upon the San Antonio river, and the bulk of his cattle range between that and the Mission river, over a range of country probably about thirty miles square. This man, I am credibly informed, has many years since followed the business of cattle raising, and has, by continued good management and economy, increased his stock of cattle from a few head to this large number. He has, of course, bought cattle, but they were bought with the proceeds of his business, originating from his first little beginning of stock that he made at the cattle-raising business. He has also a large amount of other property, all of which he accumulated from this small beginning of stock and the proceeds of his cattle-raising business. He now thinks of disposing of a share of his other property and putting the proceeds thereof into cattle. Should this be done within a short time, he will have about fifteen thousand head of cattle, and other property necessary for their management to the amount, probably, of ten thousand dollars. I say necessary, as it will eventually be required,—probably three thousand dollars worth of horses, lands, etc., would enable this man to carry on his business at this time, giving all necessary attention to his cattle. I will venture to say that if this person were asked what would have been his situation at this time had he remained in Ireland, his answer would be, a poor laboring man. He last year sold about five hundred [illegible] at eighteen dollars per head. He has this year sold eight hundred head of beeves at sixteen dollars per head. He still owns this year about three thousand cattle. He probably would not take less than eighteen or twenty thousand dollars for his next year's increase. Because of the large number of cattle [illegible] else [illegible] of any [illegible] in this country [illegible] purpose of [illegible] their [illegible] to advantage [illegible] together is [illegible] for the purpose of [illegible] may be wanted.

Let the reader imagine himself upon a broad prairie, covered with [illegible] as far as the eye can reach, and from twenty to thirty men and boys mounted upon [illegible] thousands of these cattle, driving them together with the cracking of whips, [illegible] or Indian yells, and these, together with the [illegible] roaring and fighting of bulls, and [illegible] manoeuvres in separating [illegible] from the main herd, make up an interesting and exciting scene. These are everyday occurrences here in Texas, saying nothing, at present, about the [illegible] of wild horses, cattle, and other animals.

Men having large stocks of cattle are not particular about bringing them home. There is generally [illegible] the camps, and they [illegible] the first [illegible] year, [illegible] otherwise, [illegible] the larger and [illegible] lower and [illegible] again, until [illegible] is made, or their [illegible] On [illegible] however, from [illegible] there is generally a goodly number [illegible] of the [illegible] particularly [illegible] the numbers of the [illegible] and his [illegible] if he [illegible] he would [illegible] to

Men of small [illegible] generally more [illegible] herded to [illegible] per year, [illegible] about [illegible] was [illegible] owing to the fact of his having his whole stock of cattle, except, perhaps [illegible] together in one herd [illegible] by three or four [illegible] sufficient. [illegible] of stock and the [illegible] of cattle, does not cost him more than [illegible] hundred and fifty dollars per year, and his stock will turn off one hundred [illegible] at sixteen dollars per head [illegible] The owner of these cattle is not able nor does he pretend to work, nor is there any necessity of his working, for his cattle will make him rich, besides supporting his family and paying for all the attention they require.

Now, Mr. lord of the snow-drift of New England, Canada or anywhere else, do you think that this man would exchange his fifteen hundred head of cattle and place of residence for the best farm that could be found in any cold country, with the understanding that he should go and live upon it? No indeed, he would not. Although his fifteen hundred head of cattle are not worth ten thousand dollars, and he lives in a picket hut, built upon land belonging to some one else, he would not exchange them, with the advantages of the range they have, and his [illegible], for property of five times the value in a cold country, where he would be compelled to [illegible] from four to six months of the year to [illegible]. He was raised among the [illegible]. Every year he has experienced the [illegible]. His expression is, "I am sorry for the poor devils of the north [illegible]."

A person having a small stock of cattle, say seven or eight or ten hundred head, need not pay out a dollar for hire, if he has a mind to ride and work with a stock-driving companion. In fact I know a person who has fifteen hundred head of cattle, and by riding and working in company with other stock-owners, he accomplishes his annual branding without paying out a dollar for hire; and other stock-growers, I know, who depend entirely upon hired help to work and manage their cattle. Others let their cattle out, give a share of the increase or pay by the head for their branding. The usual share given by stock-growers for branding their increase, is every fourth calf or a dollar per head for each and every one branded. Not a few, but many, men in Texas have made fine beginnings and are making snug fortunes by branding and managing stocks of cattle for the fourth calf or a dollar for brand-

[illegible] who now have fine stocks of from fifty to five hundred head of cattle, [illegible] have grown up altogether from such little beginnings. It is often interesting to hear some of these wealthy stock men relate the history of their business. They will tell you that a few years back, in 1840, perhaps, "I had but two or three cows, a few pigs and chickens, an old mare or so, and if my debts had been paid, I would n't have been worth a dollar in the world. We lived in that old shanty, and many a comfortable evening have I seen by the fire in that old fire-place. We had no land, but lived and cultivated most anywhere we pleased. We were often without much of anything to eat in those days but venison or wild meat of some kind. But my trusty old rifle was sure to knock down a plenty of that. The hundreds of cattle and horses that you now see around me and scattered over the range with my brand (diamond, ◇, or ⊙, perhaps,) on them, are mostly all from these few old animals and their increase."

How often have I heard them say that to get rich in Texas a man has only to buy a few animals and then lie down; but it takes a little more to get rich. He must brand up his increase in good season, and see that they do not stray off, or are not driven out of their range. A person having a start of fifty to a hundred head of cattle, will soon grow them up to a fine stock of several hundred or a thousand head, if he is careful to *haunt* them to a good range, and attend to them properly, which haunting can generally be done in about a year's time. After being well attached to a good range, near to one's rancho or place of residence, they require but little attention, further than the branding of the increase. It is well known that if a poor man in western Texas can get a start in the stock business, however small his beginning may be, he is sure to get well off with but little exertion, and this beginning is so easily made that a person of the least capacity or money-making qualifications, who is disposed to go into the business, is sure to make it. In the first place, he need not expend a dollar for land, if he prefers not, and if he be economical and at all inclined to work, not a cent for lumber. The broad, luxuriant prairies are open and free to him for his cattle, and the timbers, in many places, at his disposal for the building of shanties, log houses, and the making of rails, or whatever rough improvements he might see fit to make for the present, until he should be able to purchase land of his own. I have known a person to own four or five thousand head of cattle in Texas without owning a foot of land in the state, turning them loose in almost any range he might see fit, and building his ranche upon unoccupied lands.

Others, I know, having thousands of cattle in Texas without an acre of land, who give a share of their increase for branding and the attention their cattle get, or pay by the head for branding, etc. The better way, however, for a man of small beginning, is to purchase a homestead, of a few acres at least, as soon as he can, as the lands are cheap and fine for cultivation. A man of any industry can improve a little farm, the proceeds of which will support his family or self while his stock of cattle are increasing to a number that will of itself support him in a few years, and eventually make him rich. His stock should, from the beginning, however small it may be, turn off a few beeves every year, that is if his first purchase was made up of an average lot of stock cattle. An average lot of stock cattle, of different ages, in Texas, are cows and calves, yearlings and two years old, male and female, as they may run, including all females in the stock, but no beef cattle older than two years, and of course of the usual size, breed, and condition; which breed, etc., along a wide scope of the coast of Texas, is pretty much one and the same thing. Back from the coast, among the hills, mountains, and timbers, and in more northern Texas, the cattle are generally more compact in body, and pretty, not so wild, and of course more easily managed by an inexperienced hand. But the breed and condition, or unkindness of cattle in western Texas, should not govern the purchaser of limited means so much when buying for stock-raising purposes, upon the principle that the child must creep before he can walk. For instance, in the purchase of a stock of cattle in western Texas, the purchaser will get, for six dollars, cows that will raise calves which will sell for as much at six months old, for veal and other purposes, as will the calf of the same age for the same purposes, that may have been raised from a cow worth fifty dollars. And the new beginner might find himself under the necessity of parting with his calves and yearlings in order to get along.

If the beginner of quite limited means and new to this country, should undertake the business with improved or imported cattle altogether, he might find his little means exhausted before he should have fairly commenced, and long before he could have acquired a sufficient knowledge of the country to make his fine stock business profitable, and consequently subject himself to the danger of shoals, which, if the reader will follow me up, he will hereafter plainly see.

In the purchase of cattle, the new-comer or beginner in Texas should aim to get as many beeves, of good age, in his purchase as he can, provided he gets his stock at the customary average price per head. I have known stocks of cattle to sell here for five dollars round, including a fair average of three and four year old beeves. And again, I have known stocks of cattle to sell here for seven dollars round, exclusive of all beef cattle older than two years. The first mentioned may not have been so gentle and easily managed as the last, but to the experienced stock-grower this difference in the condition of the two stocks was of little consequence in comparison with the difference in price.

I am here only trying to impress the idea that to make a successful and anything like a rapid beginning with cattle in western Texas, the man of quite limited means should not be so particular about the kind of cattle to commence with. Let him buy anything of a Texas cow that will bring a calf, and get her as cheap as he can. After he is well set up in business, he can improve his cattle, if he wishes. I have known men in the northern states to buy old, superannuated ewe sheep for the purpose of getting a start in the sheep business. After getting a crop or two of lambs from these old sheep, they would begin to drop away, and would soon die out. But the purchasers got them for a trifling amount, and were thereby enabled to commence the business, which they could not have done, to any extent, by buying young and expensive sheep of the same quality of wool.

The stranger, with a plenty of money or a few thousand dollars, may come on with his fine stock in small or large quantities, according to his means. But he who brings improved stock to Texas, should understand the country beforehand, or have some one in advance of him who does; otherwise he should pay particular attention to what the writer shall hereafter say in regard to the importation of northern or European stock into Texas. I said, a little back, that the new-comer should purchase a homestead, etc., as soon as he can. But the man of small means should be very careful about putting his money into lands. He should first make sure of his stock, of whatever kind it may be; and as soon as he finds himself able to make a small outlay for lands, let him do so, and improve his place as best he can. Of course he should know, before getting his stock, where he is going to keep it; but it does not follow that he should have expended any considerable sum for lands or a place to live. *Vice versa*, the moneyed man who embarks in the stock business in western Texas should have his lands and place of business beforehand, particularly if it is his intention to raise fine stock or improve the stock that he may purchase in Texas.

One great advantage of this country to strangers, is that they may come here with a little money and put it into live stock without making an outlay for a home or a place to keep that stock; which outlay would of course take up their little capital, comparatively, in an unproductive way, where it could not afford that easy means of support, and at the same time be accumulating in a compound manner, as money does invested in stock here in Texas. A person can, in this climate, pitch strong and durable tents, or erect temporary picket or log dwellings, upon unoccupied lands, sometimes with and often without the consent of the owner. This enables him to invest his little capital as above set forth, and gives him time to look up a place for a permanent residence, and a range to suit him for his cattle or stock, also time to get ready to make a payment upon a place when and where it may suit him to buy. I must not forget to say that it is, in one of the broad prairies that I know of, expected by stock-growers there that a new-comer will purchase a quantity of land in this prairie before turning loose a stock of cattle upon it. But no one, so far as I know, regards the expectations of these people. I am knowing to the fact that men from all parts are turning loose their cattle in any range they please in western Texas, whether they have lands or not. But the better way, as I have said, is to get a little land as soon as possible, as it costs but a trifle, and can, as a general thing, be bought upon most favorable terms. If you are a man of quite limited means, put your money into stock, and then get your land on time. Should you then find yourself pushed to make your payments, sell out your male cattle, of any age, your yearling mules or mutton sheep, etc., to the best advantage you can, and keep your females and best producing stock, which will fetch you out all right.

I will here say that the best way for a working man, of small means, who comes alone to the country and is unacquainted with its peculiar ways of stock-raising, to commence the cattle or horse and mule raising business in Texas, is to look up some stock-grower already in the business, in whom confidence can be placed, and not only consult and advise with him upon the subject, but work your stock with those who work his stock, if you can. Whoever comes to Texas to engage in anything pertaining to the stock or farming business, should move slowly and carefully at first. The difference in climate and the flattering appearance of the country, is apt to carry a stranger away with some foolish notion, and too often it takes him a long time to recover from the effects of his folly in the beginning. Strangers in this country should remember that there are already many settlers here, and that they are not all lazy and wanting in good sense, and that it would be well to find out a little how others do before "pitching in" too strong. The cattle business, as it is now generally carried on in Texas, requires a vast deal of horseback riding, which is hard work, at first, for one who is unaccustomed to this kind of exercise. But after following it for one season, almost any man will endure a day's ride or work at the business with but little fatigue. As hard as it may be, when compared with the splitting of rails, hoeing of corn and potatoes, mowing and pitching of hay, cradling and binding of grain, etc., etc., it might justly be considered pleasure-riding. The hardest work attending the business of cattle-raising in Texas, is the marking and branding of the increase. But there is a kind of excitement connected with this part of the business, as there is, also, with the riding part of it, which makes it what the writer would call, laborious amusement, in which every little boy and thrifty young man seem eager to engage and participate.

When stock-cattle change hands, to be kept in the country, the original brand is generally put on to them again, which is called counter-branding, and the brand of the purchaser is also put on to them. The brand of every stock-grower must be recorded, to enable him to hold it in law, or in case of dispute. Men having large stocks of cattle generally have their brand recorded in several adjoining counties. They also like their cattle to go some ways from home, for the purpose of changing range and crossing with other cattle, which is conducive to health and thrift. The opposite course of hemming them into coves and bends of rivers, upon islands, etc., has a tendency to degenerate and run the stock down to puny, inferior animals. A person can keep his stock near home, however, and avoid all this by changing bulls, which costs him nothing, and by driving his stock, occasionally, away from their old stamping grounds; all of which, in time, with a little watching, are sure to return. This precaution, however, is entirely unnecessary until a stock has become very large, and has been kept upon the same range for a long time.

An immense number of the cattle produced in Texas are used for oxen, and many of them are driven north. There are many thousands of beef cattle now annually driven from here to Chicago and different markets north of Texas. It is a singular fact that an inferior beef is here grown to four and five years of age and then driven thousands of miles to a northern market, and this, too, at a profitable rate for the producer as well as the drover. New Orleans is, however, the principal market for the present great surplus of beef and veal cattle produced in western Texas, but the time will come when Texas will produce more beeves than is now consumed in all the great markets of the United States. In the opinion of the writer, the time is coming when the same extent of territory in no part of the world will produce more live stock of all kinds than will the present domain of Texas.

The man of means, it is needless to say, can at this time, and for many years to come, do more with his money in Texas than he can do in almost any, if not quite any, other part of the world, particularly at the stock business. With ten thousand dollars a person can buy in Texas a thousand head of cattle, a league of as good land as there is in the world, and establish for himself a comfortable and respectable home in the way of dwelling-house, etc., all of which property, in time, would be worth several hundred per cent. more than it would now cost him. Inclosing lands for pasturage is quite extensively commenced by men of means in some parts of Texas; but the stock business here, as a general thing at this time, could not be made profitable by inclosing the stock of the country in pastures. In fact, from the nature and present state of things, such a course could not be generally pursued, and therefore our broad prairies are to be open for many years to any and all who may see fit to turn their stock upon them. Eventually almost every stock-grower in the country will require a pasture, but the time is far distant when the great bulk of Texas range will be fenced up—possibly fifty and possibly a hundred years may not see this. The time is coming when the cattle and different kinds of stock in this country are to be generally improved, and the better grasses are to be cultivated. Then it is that fencing will come into general requisition. It will not cost any more to pasture a Durham bullock than s Texas animal, and the Durham, all things considered, is undoubtedly worth double the money. Who loubts, that if the present stock of Texas cattle were entirely of English breeds, it would be worth twelve lollars per head all round, instead of six dollars?

When a great central railroad is put through Texas, rom New Orleans via San Antonio into central Mex- co, then look out for improvements of all kinds, and he going up of property in these parts. The time for he building of such road of course no one can now afely predict, but that such a road will some day be uilt, the most natural appearance of things renders ertain. There are already many miles of disconnected portions of it built.

HORSE AND MULE RAISING.

The stock man in western Texas has a wide field in hich to operate. If he has a speculative disposition, here is, and is to be, a plenty of room for its gratification: while he can have some one look to his stock, hey can be doing just as well as though he were all he time at home watching them. There are any number of stock men, merchants, and speculators in Texas, who have made fine fortunes by driving horses and mules from Mexico to northern markets, or by bring- ng them here to sell to northern speculators, and to our stock-growers, or the planters of eastern Texas. have known boys of fifteen and sixteen years of age, o go on wages with old drivers to Mexico with the privilege of investing what little money they might ave in horses or mules, and put them with the drove of the employer; and many men who have started in this small way have become wealthy and large operators. Many of these drivers, after selling out enough horses, mules, etc., to pay the entire purchase money and all expenses on their droves, have fine lots of mares left on hand, which they keep here for the purpose of raising horses and mules, which, by the way, is no trifling business in this country.

It is estimated that the horse kind in Texas now numbers about a quarter of a million, but the continual driving of this kind of stock from Mexico to Texas, and from Texas to different parts of the United States, renders it very difficult to come at any correct knowledge of the number of this kind of stock really belonging in Texas. I should suppose that the tax-list of the state did not cover more than three fourths or four fifths, at most, of the horse kind really belonging in it; and whether it does or not, the raising of mules and horses in Texas is an extensive and profitable business. I am now thinking of a Dutchman who has made a snug fifty thousand by buying and driving horses and mules from Mexico to different states of this Union, and by raising cattle, horses, and mules in western Texas. He is now settled down in western Texas, loaning money at such rates of interest as could be paid in no country but this. I have been told that a mare colt, for which he paid five dollars, in Mexico, he sold in Illinois, when grown, for one hundred and twenty-five dollars; and that a mare, for which he paid, in Mexico, five dollars, when on her way to Illinois, being kept over one season in Texas, brought him two colts, one soon after the purchase and the other the next spring, and all together brought him one hundred and forty dollars. Who wonders at his making fifty thousand dollars?

I am an eye witness to greater doings here in western Texas than I have just mentioned. I know of men who have mares that were thrown in to them for nothing, as sucking colts, when they purchased their mothers in Mexico, and some of these mares have had their fifth and eighth colt since brought to Texas, and bid fair to have as many more, and their keeping has never cost them a dime. I have a knowledge of men, and there are plenty of such here, who have made large amounts of money or property by driving horses and mules from Mexico, and selling out such as they deemed advisable, and keeping the balance, are now here raising mules and horses at such paying rates, upon the capital invested, as was never heard of, except in Texas. Not a hundred miles from my place of writing, there is living a gentleman who, not many years since, came to Texas with a small amount of means, and commenced the buying and selling and raising of mules and horses. I am told that he now has an increase of one thousand mules annually from his stock of mares.

Think of this, reader!—a stock of mares that will raise a thousand mules annually, running on the big pasture of Texas, and for nothing! The owner of this stock has recently built a domicil that has the appearance of being worth fifteen or twenty thousand dollars. He could probably build such a one every year without any strain upon his income. Here is a country wide open for others who may wish to take his track!

This stock, like horned cattle, find here the year through, more grass of spontaneous growth than it requires, and is managed with very little trouble and expense. I have known a man in western Texas having four or five hundred head of horses, mules, jacks, etc., without the help of more than one man to take care of these animals, and this help only a part of the year during the branding season. This man, not many years ago, worked not two miles from the cluster of trees under which I am writing, for a single cow and calf per month, worth at that time five or six dollars. He afterward went to Mexico with the old gentleman for whom he had worked, and invested his small earnings with him. He continued driving horses and mules in this connection for some time. It was but a few years, however, before this laboring man had got more property than his old employer, he proving the most active and expert at the business. He is now settled here in western Texas, upon a tract of twelve hundred acres of fine land, which he owns, in addition to several thousand acres besides, raising mules and horses almost exclusively as a business.

This is but one or two of the many instances that I might relate to prove this a remarkably good business.

A stallion or herder placed with a number of mares, and kept with them altogeher for one season, will never after suffer any of these mares to leave his herd, unless it is from some accident. Mares are kept together in this way, in different bunches, for the purpose of raising mules; jacks not answering the purpose of keeping them together. Horses fixed and used for this purpose, are called herders, and it is amusing to see them lay their ears and whip their mares into the herd when they get a little scattered out, or when a person is approaching them on horseback or otherwise, and woe to the stallion or gelding that attempts to intrude or make his company agreeable to any of this bunch of mares. The herder whip him, if he can. They do not fight jacks, but are benefit to the jack that may be placed in a herd wit them. These herders are a great help to the business and will continue to be so as long as horses are raise upon broad unfenced prairies. The fact of a single herder keeping together fifty or sixty mares, on a broad prairie for a whole year, without ever suffering one of them to leave his herd, should be sufficient evidence of their utility, and that they will do this for a jack—submitting to Mr. long ears as the king of the harem—is a singular and striking proof of their utility in this open country. Horses are more inclined to stay together and ramble less than cattle.

A person having twenty or even five good brood-mares, and a proof jack, by selling his mules at a year old and putting the proceeds thereof into mares, will soon get a fine stock of breeding animals on hand. A good average lot of yearling mules, from Mexican stock raised in Texas, will bring thirty dollars round; a lot of half breeds of this age would bring fifty dollars per head; a lot of common Texas mules, at three and four years old, from sixty to seventy-five dollars; a lot of half breeds of these ages, from seventy-five to one hundred and twenty-five dollars, right at home; and mules of three and four years old, from American stock, are worth from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and twenty-five dollars per head. A pretty good average of Mexican mares can now be bought at twelve to sixteen dollars here in Texas, without going to Mexico for them. There is a certain point in western Texas to which the Mexican horse trade tends. A person anywhere in this country wanting Mexican mares, jacks, mules, or horses, can go to the old town of Goliad, at almost any time, and there meet with Mexicans or speculators having such animals for sale. They of course can not always be bought there as cheap as in Mexico, as the men who bring them there generally do it for a profit; but frequently there are great bargains made out of the Mexicans at this point.

BREAKING OF HORSES.

The breaking of Mexican or our Texas raised horses to ride, is a wild and exciting business. When first mounted they are inclined to pitch, and a majority of them do their best to get the rider to the ground. Pitching, as I would describe it, is first putting the head down, then one end up, and then the other, advancing forward every up and down, sometimes inclining this side and that, generally with the fore legs straight and stiff, and the head always down, contracting or gathering at every jump,—a furious, rapid succession of motions that soon exhausts the horse or downs the rider. An experienced or professional rider is, however, almost certain to sit firmly in his saddle or hang on until the horse gives up from exhaustion. The saddles of this country are of peculiar make,—of course well adapted to the riding of these horses. The Mexican manner of subduing these animals is adopted, to a great extent, by the people of Texas and those who come here. These Mexican or unimproved Texas horses are to be useful, and I might say almost indispensable, in this country so long as the stock of the country is left to range over unfenced prairies. There is no other kind of horses that would answer anything like as well for the stock business. Many of these Texas horses are beautiful pacing ponys, and of a variety of colors. When well broken, they make fine riding horses for ladies and children; and we, in Texas, think they are first rate riding horses for men.

STOCK DRIVING.

The driving of stock in this country is a peculiar business. All the native stock, even sheep, are liable to *stampede.* Stampeding is the sudden starting and running of a drove of animals from being frightened; and no driving manager, however careful he may be, can always avoid a stampede. Things will very often happen to stampede a drove of Texas cattle that can not be foreseen—such, for instance, as the unexpected rising up of a man out of tall grass in front of the drove, a first and unexpected quick clap of thunder and flash of lightning, or jumping up of a hog near to or in the midst of the drove; also many things, that watchful and attentive drovers can avoid, will sometimes stampede cattle and cause them to run a long way before stopping. A drove of cattle once well frightened and hard run, will afterward start without apparent cause. So it behooves the drivers to be cautious, for there is no regular rest with a drove of Texas cattle after they have once badly stampeded, until they are well quieted and broke in again. These remarks apply more to droves of beef cattle than to stock cattle; although Texas cattle, of all kinds, will stampede.

I was told an amusing circumstance by an extensive stock-manager in this country. He says he once took a new-comer, a northern man, on a driving trip with him. Their cattle having stampeded in the night, every man jumped for his horse. The green man, who was an active, zealous fellow, mounts the first horse which he comes to, which was one that had been hoppled when turned out in the evening, when the day's work was done. After rounding in the cattle, and running their horses, now and then, to the best of their speed, for two or three hours, to hold the cattle together and get them where they wanted them, the crowd of drovers all got together, and the verdant *vaquero*, who had gloriously done his part, tells them that the horse he was riding had the d— gaits of any horse that he had ever ridden, and from his description of the gaits, some one of the crowd suspected that Yankee's horse must have been running with his hopples on. It being dark, the suspicious man gets down, and, upon feeling, sure enough the fore legs of Yankee's horse are tied together, which accounted for the awfulest jumps, as he said, his horse had been making all night long. Of course the jug *of Dexter's best*, which had several times passed around camp during the evening, had nothing to do with Yankee's case.

CAMPING AND STORY-TELLING.

The stock-drover's camp is generally replete with stories in regard to horsemanship, lassoing maneuvers, wild horse and cow catching, etc., and when in camp with these gentlemen of the pitching art, I always try to keep my end up. Upon one occasion, when in company with about twenty of these good-natured fellows, after hearing several well-colored stories in regard to mustang riding, etc., I came out with a story in regard to an old Dutchman and his son *Hans*, who lived not far from where I was raised, and who were in the habit of raising horses, or, in other words, *kept Dutch dairy.* Hans was in the habit of going out in the summer to work on wages, and in the winter would come home and help keep hot fires, drink cider, and break colts. Hans, one day, took a colt from the barn-yard, and after leading him, with the bridle, out into the deep snow, without a saddle, of course, mounted him, and, after repeated efforts, could not ride the colt to his satisfaction, turned him back into the yard. The old man, seeing this, comes out in bad humor, and interrogated Hans: "What for, Hans, you don't shtick to dish golt?—he musht pe proken, und might as vell pe proken to-day as any dimes." "Vell, dad, he ish te difle himself; I can do noting mit him." "You vagapont, Hans, you mus'dt dink zider gost noting. Tish mighty fine to vorm yourself py mine fire, und to notings for your grubs. Get te pridle, you musht ride him, Hans." Getting out the colt, Hans succeeds in riding him, but can not get the colt to go ahead as it should. The old man coming up says: "Hans, I has von contrivance by vich I can make dish golt go ahead. I vil get on to de golt, and you go long town pehind dat sthump, and vhen I rides long py dare you trow your hat and halloo boo!" The old man with much difficulty reaches and is passing the stump, when here comes the hat, with a frightful jump and "boo!" from the top of Hans's voice. The colt, of course, with a tremendous jump, keels the old man heels over head and buries him in the snow. Hans, quickly approaching and shaking him, says: "Dat, am you kilt?" "*O no, Hans; put dat vas too t—a pig a boo for a little golt!*" It is needless to say, after this, I was called upon until my fund of stories was exhausted.

MUSTANGING.

Mustanging is among the wildest and most excitable games of the country. I have been told by different individuals that they have seen as many as fifteen hundred or two thousand mustangs together upon a western Texas prairie. Mustang pens, for the purpose of catching these wild animals, are built in almost all the extensive prairies of western Texas. These pens are strongly made, to the hight of ten and twelve feet, and sometimes with wings from a half to a mile in length. They are built where these animals frequent, and, if possible, over their extensive trail, among bushes or behind timber, where they can not see their danger, when approaching these pens, until they are too far within the wings of the pen to retreat, unless it is by running directly back upon their pursuers, which they sometimes do when coming in sight of the pen; but generally, when this far, furiously take their cage, and not unfrequently with such force that the foremost ones, unable to stop from being pushed on by those behind, are smashed down, striking the fence, and, like a train of cars in collision, pile upon each other, until some of the hindmost bounce along on the pile over the top of the pen. When once in the *corral*, and the gap safely secured with cross-poles, ropes, etc., boisterous work begins. Here the *vaquero* can display his skill to his entire satisfaction.

About twenty miles from my place of writing, there is a family of young men who, several years ago, built a mustang pen which I have several times seen. These young men, having *corralled* several little bunches of horses, and having made several ineffectual attempts to pen a certain valuable gang of mustangs running in their prairie, had abandoned the idea for a time, when, soon after, there came news to them that a couple of little neighboring boys, on horseback, had accidentally come upon this very lot of mustangs, on the old trail, in the very mouth of the wings of the pen. Dashing upon them and bravely pursuing their advantage, these boys forced them into the pen, and securely closed the gap behind them. Immediately all hands are on tiptoe, and soon, with a preparation of ropes and lassos, revolvers, clogs, hopples, blinds, etc., away they go to catch and subdue the valuable ones, which are the mares and colts, and shoot down the worthless, which are the old stallions—worthless from being too obstinate and headstrong to pay for breaking, and when broken, disagreeable animals. I believe there were about forty mares taken from this bunch and gentled, which sold for twelve dollars per head, after they were manageable in a herd.

The gentling of these wild animals is a wicked business. It is often done by tying one fore foot of the animal to a block of wood or a weight that they can not take away, and then left to feed upon grass, being led with a Mexican halter once a day to water, and worked with in this way until sufficiently gentle to turn all together with clogs and hopples upon their feet. When manageable without the clogs, etc., they are taken off, and the herd gently and carefully worked in order to restore the flesh they have lost in the hard and tedious operation.

CATCHING WILD CATTLE.

There are forests in this country where horned stock, from being neglected, have run wild. Crowds of stock-boys sometimes go, with their dogs, and hunt these cattle out of the timber on to the prairies, and catch or shoot them down to prevent them from tolling their gentle stock away into these forests. I know of stock-boys who are in the habit of going upon moonlight nights, with a plenty of help, each man with several ropes to his saddle, and as still and adroitly as possible get between these cattle and their hiding-place, when they are feeding on the edge of the prairie, and rush suddenly upon them and push them in a body far out into the open prairie, and hold them all together, if possible, and if not, when the captain of the crowd shouts, "Rope, boys!" every man secures his animal and ties it down, and if he has time ropes another before they reach the timber. All being safely tied down they are left until morning, when a gentle herd of cattle is driven to each one and they are let up and into the herd and driven away to be branded, according to a previous agreement of the crowd of adventurers.

There is another way of getting hold of these wild fellows, and that is by tailing them, which is a lively business. I was once with a crowd of stock-boys when we came, unexpectedly, upon a bunch of wild cattle, some distance out from their thicket or place of hiding. The boys made after them, and one of our number caught and threw, by the tail, a fine heifer, and, getting quickly down, put a fore foot of the animal over one of its horns, marking its ears with his jack-knife, for in case it should get up and run off it would be his. Mounting his horse he dashed away and overtook the frightened bunch just in time to tail another before it made the thicket. This one was thrown to the ground, but for some reason or other it got away.

This tailing business is nothing more than riding up behind an animal and catching it by the tail, and sometimes giving it a twist around the horn of the saddle, and, driving the spurs to the horse, he jerks the animal to the ground with such velocity that frequently it will not attempt to get up for several minutes. The faster an animal is running the more easily it is thrown to the ground. When driving stock-cattle, if an animal is not inclined to drive well and is continually breaking out of the herd, some driver takes after it and gives it a fall by the tail, after which it generally drives peaceably along.

THE KIND OF MEN FOR THE BUSINESS.

Now in regard to the kind of men who are calculated to carry on the business of raising horses and cattle in this country. Upon opening the subject of stock-raising in Texas to men of the northern states or European countries, they would most undoubtedly give one to understand that they consider themselves entirely unfit for a country like Texas, where the cows and horses are wild and are to be caught by throwing the rope or lasso, and managed of course by men who are acquainted with that art. *But this would be a mistaken idea.* There are men here from all parts of Europe and America, who are engaged in the stock business, and it is hard to say who are the most expert with the lasso or rope, or who are the best managers and workers with the stock of the country. I can say, however, that I have seen a plenty of men here, both from Europe and the northern states, who could throw the rope with more certainty than any Mexican I have ever seen, whose business it always is from his childhood up. The knowledge of roping and managing the different kinds of stock in Texas is easily acquired. In proof of this it is sufficient to say that most of the men of Texas are from those states and countries where the use of the lasso is unknown, and where all kinds of stock are gentle, and these are the men who are raising cattle and all kinds of live stock here, and succeed so remarkably well. "Where there is a will there is a way." I have heard old Texans remark that from those countries where cattle are driven by men on foot, come the best drovers and most prudent managers of Texas stock. I do not say the most expert in every respect, but I might say the most profitable. They are raised to know the necessity of working carefully and mildly with stock of all kinds. To be patient, attentive, and industrious with cattle or stock of any kind, in any country, is essential, and for this reason those men who come to Texas from those countries where cattle are gently and kindly managed, will help to moderate the roughness, wildness, and carelessness of the country in the management of its stock; and furthermore, it is through these new-comers that its stock is to be generally improved and made valuable. I would not lead any one to suppose that they can come and manage our Texas cattle and horses without adopting the ways of the country to some extent; and these ways, as I have said, are easily acquired by the stranger, particularly the Americans and most Europeans. I am well aware that my accounts of wild doings in Texas would have a tendency to deter some men from coming here, if they were otherwise disposed to come; but I must here do away with wrong impressions. To carry on the stock business in Texas, there is no necessity of a person engaging in the business of wild horse or cow catching unless he prefers so to do. He need not brand his own increase even. There are always plenty of stock men who are ready and willing to brand any one's cattle or horses at a reasonable price, and sometimes unreasonably low. He can also, as I have said before, work his cattle with other stockmen, and, if he is determined, can become very well qualified to manage his stock in one season. What one man can do, generally speaking, another man can do. There are many people in many of the over-populated countries of the world who would be glad to emigrate, and would do so were it not that they look upon themselves as unequal to the emergencies of the undertaking. Thousands of men never know their capacities from the simple fact that they never try themselves, and consequently live a life of comparative nothingness. Is it not right for any vigorous young or middle-aged man to believe that if away off yonder people are living and doing wonderful things, he could there live and do just such things? It is right for a person to give away off yonder matters a common sense looking into, so far as he conveniently can, at least. If the news of a newly-discovered gold region reaches his ears, might he not say to himself, "What are the prospects? how extensive is this region? what proportion of the men there are making anything, and how much are they making? Is it a risky lottery of one chance in a thousand? Do a majority of the men there dig for gold or for nothing? and am I not as able to dig and go hungry, and endure as much hardship and deprivation for the sake of gold as any one of my inches? Pa and ma are good people, but am I always to stay at home with them and all the children? Who knows what I can do until I try? So in regard to Texas. If men are there from Ireland and Germany with more property than a thousand such men would have ever made where they went from or where I am living, why could I not go there and make money as they have made and are making it, although the cattle there do require roping? If in one season this art can be learned, and I could manage my cattle by working with others in the mean time, or as stockmen there work with and help each other, why could I not do as well there as any one? People are there from Great Britain, Germany, France, New England, and all the world, and am I not as smart as an Englishman, Dutchman, Frenchman, Yankee or anybody else? Why should I not be benefited by the spontaneous growth of that beautiful country, and my cattle live upon that waste of grass, since it would cost me nothing?" Or another might say, "I have a fine capital, and could go there and buy cattle and pay for the attention they might require; speculate, in company with some experienced person, in mules and horses, wool and hides, and other products of the country; look up bargains in those leagues and immense grants of unoccupied lands; and live and enjoy myself in that delightful country, where a man can do more as he pleases and not live subject to so much criticism, slander, and restraint, as in this old, worn-out country, where people are too nervous, too meddlesome, too artificial and unnatural for my purpose."

I will here say that a person, if he wishes, can buy in western Texas small stocks of cattle and horses, which are as gentle as they need be, or as much so as they are in any country where they are not stabled and fed with hay and grain. Many stockmen in Texas get up a large share of their calves and milk the cows for a little while, for the purpose of gentling the calves and keeping the cows near home, which has a tendency to keep the stock from scattering. I have known men to milk several hundred cows during the season a short time each, and it is not an unusual thing to see five hundred or a thousand head of cattle with bunches of mares and mules among them in front of the stock-grower's pen or place of branding, congregated there from off the prairie for the night; and the reader can judge something of the wildness or gentleness of these animals when I tell him that he can walk among them all, and put his hands on many of them, and some of them, when lying down, require kicking to make them get up out of his way. The reader must not think, from my remarks, that it is all wildness here. It is as much the way of managing the stock of the country, whether wild or gentle, that would be new and curious to the stranger as anything else. The ways of the country once learned, the cattle and horse business is many times as profitable, and a thousand per cent. easier, than in any snowy, cold country in the world.

HOG RAISING.

My remarks upon the stock business should have continued directly on, from horned cattle and horses to other kinds of stock, without going off upon seeming irrelevancy, but from the fact that other kinds of stock can be managed here without the [illegible] or [illegible], and that a person from any part of the world can [illegible] it to advantage from the beginning, if he knows how to manage [illegible].

[illegible] hogs [illegible] part in [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the stock raising [illegible]. [illegible] of this country [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] out of [illegible] of corn. [illegible] ing [illegible] the raising of hogs [illegible]. It can be done [illegible]. In this [illegible] it is necessary to raise a field of corn for the purpose of feeding their hogs sufficiently to keep them [illegible] them, and for the purpose of [illegible] the corn when their pigs are young; [illegible] to raise hogs in this country without [illegible] a kernel of corn or anything else, [illegible] ing them by the [illegible] to particular places, and feeding [illegible] to keep them gentle and [illegible], it is by far the most profitable; and [illegible] has overcome their inclination to work, such will always raise corn for feeding their hogs, [illegible] the most agreeable and easy [illegible]. As I am not in a hog-raising section of country, and as my personal acquaintance with the business here is not very extensive, I will close the subject with a few remarks. I can say, however, that I have been well acquainted with the business in other countries, and have seen enough of it here to enable me to say much more in its praise than I shall take time to do. To relate the best I have heard of as having been done in Texas in the way of raising hogs and making bacon, I fear might injure my cause, for I know it could hardly be credited by those who are unacquainted with the country. The constant emigration to the country, and the labor and expense that this business requires more than other stock pursuits, and the fact that other kinds of meat are so easily raised or obtained, combined, the neglect of this branch and renders pork in great demand and at extremely high prices. Although there ought to be the greatest abundance produced in the country, of the greatest value to the producer, yet there is a great amount of bacon, pork, and lard imported into the state. Owing to its convenience, palatableness, etc., this kind of meat is generally preferred by the mass of people, bringing more, particularly, to any other kind of cured or salt meat; all of which insures a good home market for the produce of those who may see fit to engage in this business, and such meat as is fit to eat. And I believe that there never was better pork produced than is made upon the mast. It is more like northern or western fattened meat than a hard feed make it like a soft kind. The mast-fat pork of this country, when boiled, does not boil almost away, nor, when fried, does three-fourths of it go to oil. It is more solid and firm, like northern corn or grain-fed meat, and is very sweet.

New and extensive markets will continually open for the producer of hog-meat in Texas. When the great (so to be) railroad shall have penetrated into central and western Texas from New Orleans, then that great city of the south may look this way for her supply of fresh pork and mutton, as she now does for her beef and veal. Working men can go into good hog-raising sections of western Texas and make a glorious beginning with but little capital. How often have I thought, when traveling over different portions of this country, that many farmers of the northern states and the cold Canadas, and many other countries, would be overjoyed to know what they could do here at this business. If men of small capital or limited means would interest the right kind of laboring men with them and come to western Texas and engage in this branch of the stock business, they could make everything around them smile. In the first place, the land that would be required to make a respectable beginning at the business, would cost but a trifle, and could be bought upon easy terms. A stock of hogs could soon be raised from a few breeding sows, which would cost but little. I know of fine stocks of hogs, numbering several hundred, that were raised in a short time, originating entirely from a few head of pigs that cost nothing but the trouble of taking them wild from the timbers and taming them. Dwellings and improvements, that would answer the purpose for a beginning, could be made of timber handy by, with a little labor, and without the outlay of money; and soon the settler could blow his horn, when hundreds of the swiny tribe would come at his call, and in seasons of plentiful mast, fine droves of fat hogs could be turned off to advantage, or perhaps salted, smoked and packed away to better advantage. I know of a gentleman who sold out of his smokehouse, a year or two ago, fifteen hundred dollars worth of bacon, all of which was gotten and fattened upon the mast near to his premises. Others I know of here in western Texas, who carry on the business much more extensively than this gentleman,—I might say five times, perhaps, and not be far out of the way. Should a person be determined to go into the business upon an extensive scale, and raise corn for the fattening of his hogs, he can do so with the most complete success. Early planting generally insures a good crop of cor in Texas.

In the selection of a location for the hog busines exclusively, a person should of course be somewhat more particular than when looking for a range fo cattle or horses. This country seems, by nature, to vary in sections, each being adapted to a particular kind of stock; although any or all kinds of stock wil do exceedingly well in many sections of western Texas. The reason why men of capital should interest or bring laboring men with them to carry on the hog business, is that labor of the kind required is hard to get in Texas. This is unlike other stock-raising in this re spect, as it is in almost all others. Mexicans and white men, who are ready and willing, can be hired to work with horses and cattle, and Mexicans can be had at a low rate for the purpose of herding and working with sheep, another kind of stock the raising of which in western Texas is considered by many the most profitable and agreeable of anything that can be done in the way of stock business.

SHEEP RAISING AND WOOL GROWING.

I might as well say at the beginning of this subjec that, although Mexicans are good herders of sheep and work at low rates, northern men, Scotchmen, and Europeans generally, who understand the manage ment of sheep, can do well here as managers, herders, and laborers with this kind of stock.

The rapidity with which the sheep business is going ahead in this country is sure to make a great deman for labor of the kind required at the business, and northern men and Europeans as herders and laborer with sheep would be preferred to the Mexicans, whose ways are too wild to suit those who are to be the grea wool growing community of Texas. Another advantage that the northern man would have over the Mexican is, that his language is the same as that of the generality of wool growers who are to occupy the country. Germans are to be wool growers to a great extent in Texas, which will give an extraordinary demand for laborers at this business of the German tongue. Americans and all countryman are glad to employ Germans as herders of sheep or for anything else.

The growing of wool is to many a most interesting business, and one with which the writer is well acquainted. I have a knowledge of the wool growing business of the northern, eastern, and western states of the Union, and of different parts of the world, and my opinion is that nowhere can this business be made more profitable and pleasant than in western Texas. Years ago there seemed to have been a want of acquaintance with the business as adapted to the country, which, by degrees, has been and is now being rapidly acquired; and there are already many instances of success in western Texas that can hardly be equaled in any other country. I will here introduce extracts from a publication in the Texas Almanac, written by a gentleman who has had a good deal of experience in the sheep business in this country. He says:

"In preparing a second article upon sheep-raising, in this portion of Texas, I find that I have but little to add to the experience I gave you last year; my success has continued most flattering since September, 1857. The winter of '57–8, although very wet, was passed without any loss worth mentioning; two ews only died, and both from extreme old age rather than from any disease. At any time during the months of December, January, February, and March, nine out of ten of my wethers, although running without shelter and with no other food than what they could pick or crop upon the hill sides and in the prairie valleys, were in better condition for the butcher than stall-fed animals ordinarily are at the north, and since spring set in the greater number have been too fat for the shambles. 'Try and find one poor enough to kill,' has been the common request for three months past, whenever I have wanted mutton for my table.

"As an evidence of my success for the two past years, or since the first of May, 1856, I will give a short statement of the increase in the number of my sheep, and in the amount of wool sheared. I doubt whether a greater degree of good fortune ever attended the efforts of any one engaged in the business. In May, 1856, I had some eighteen hundred and fifty sheep and lambs, all told. Had I not sold or killed any bucks or wethers, I should have been able to count over four thousand at the end of May of the present year (1858). From this it will be seen that I have more than doubled the number of my sheep in two years. Meanwhile, the increase in the amount of wool has more than trebled, as the following will show:

In 1856, I sheared	2,800 lbs.
In 1857, I sheared	5,100 lbs.
In 1858, I sheared	9,000 lbs.

And this, after selling and killing nearly four hundred wethers, and without purchasing a single animal. When it is taken into consideration that the quality of my wool has been materially improved by breeding from no other than pure Merino bucks from the best flocks of France and Vermont, it may safely be set down that, while the quantity of wool has more than trebled in two years, its value has fully quadrupled. Am I not right in saying that so great a degree of success has never attended the efforts of any one engaged in the same business?

"I can not reasonably hope for a continuance of such unparalleled good luck or fortune; yet I can see no reason why so great a degree of mortality should visit my flocks in future as ordinarily prevails among sheep in Ohio, Pennsylvania, or Vermont, at all times. Here in the mountains of Comal and Blanco counties, I believe it to be impossible for two great scourges of flocks, almost the world over, to be generated and spread. I have reference to the foot rot and the scab. Nor do I believe that that worst of all epidemics among sheep—the liver rot—can ever cause much loss to our flocks in this high and dry region. Not a case have I seen in two years, nor can I point to any causes in the mountains to give it a foothold. We might as well look for a visitation of the yellow fever in a region where even the lightest bilious attacks are almost unknown, and where physicians are compelled to resort to other callings than their regular profession to gain a livelihood; and if we are to go on and escape the diseases I have enumerated, we have undoubtedly the best region for sheep in the wide world. In proof, I would state that good grazing lands can still be purchased at from one to two dollars per acre, and that the cost of watching, salting, and caring for a flock of a thousand head, does not exceed two hundred and twenty-five dollars, or twenty-five cents for each sheep per annum. How can the northern and western wool growers compete with us on lands which they value at from twenty to sixty dollars per acre, and where it costs eight or ten times as much to feed a single animal a year? As well might they attempt to raise sugar and cotton with the hope of gaining the profits made in Louisiana and Mississippi, as to raise wool as cheaply as we can produce it in Texas.

"Attracted by the heavy profits made in this region during the two last years (for it may safely be set down that those engaged in the sheep business have cleared from sixty to eighty per cent. per annum on their investments, quite a number of gentlemen have started off this spring and summer in search of flocks, and others will doubtless soon leave. Some have gone to Arkansas and Missouri, others to Mexico. I am confident that those regions will be completely swept of all the surplus sheep they have to spare, and at prices at least twenty-five per cent. higher than ever paid before."

Thus writes an intelligent wool-grower of western Texas, a Vermonter, I believe, by birth. Although this gentleman does not publicly ask people of any section or part of the world to come to this country and engage in the sheep business, he does, if I am rightly informed, privately advise and even persuade his particular friends, wherever they may be, to come here and embark in it as the very best thing that they can do, or as the most safe, profitable, and interesting pursuit in the world. It is an old and favorite idea with him that he had rather witness his innocent, playful lambs dance, caper, and run about, than to witness the most beautiful theatrical or dramatic display. He has a taste for this business, he loves it, and he makes money at it. He has seen much of the world, but admires the country in which he lives, and not only appreciates it as it is, but sees its coming greatness.

And why should he not advise his friends to participate with him in the profits of a most interesting pursuit? Why should not his heart swell with emulation when he thinks of his cold, frosty, native region, in comparison with the mild and most inviting one of his adoption! It is but a short time since I met a young gentleman in Texas, on his way up the country with a flock of sheep. He told me that Mr. K. was the cause of his coming to Texas with those sheep; that he, K., was a friend of his, and that he knew he would not advise or persuade him into anything out of the way. It would be a fortunate thing for thousands of cold countrymen if they were the friends and acquaintances of this gentleman, Mr. K., whose remarks I have taken from the Texas Almanac.

But in the absence of such friend or adviser, may not the writer's remarks be of some service? He has himself had in charge six or seven thousand sheep in this country, though under most unfavorable circumstances. He was raised at the stock and farming business, far north of this, and has an extensive practical knowledge of not only sheep and wool-growing in the north, but all kinds of live stock, and having been nearly seven years in constant contact with Texas stock-growers, managing sheep, buying, driving, and shipping beef and veal-cattle, branding and working with stock-cattle and horses, and, to a certain extent, with hogs, he ought to be well acquainted with and able to give a pretty good account of her stock-raising and farming business and capacities.

To continue the subject of sheep and wool-growing in this fine country, I will introduce the operations of an acquaintance, living not far from my place of writing. Some years ago I spent a week with him at his sheep-range. About the year 1840, he commenced with twelve head of Mexican ewes and a buck of common stock. In the year 1854, the increase of these few animals numbered nearly thirteen hundred head of beautiful sheep. That year the storm that blew down Matagorda, a town not far from where these sheep were raised, and proved so destructive to our coast, by the merest accident killed about seven hundred of this flock. This accident was their getting on an elevation that was afterward surrounded by water, and, when swimming off, the larger half of them stuck in a quantity of flood-wood and drowned; but the increase of the four or five hundred that survived the storm have since brought the number of the flock up to somewhere near sixteen hundred head. This flock has been gradually improved, and now yields a good quality and fair quantity of wool, and produces the finest of mutton. The owner of these sheep is an old sailor by profession, who was born and raised in the state of Maine, and I was going to say he would not give his flock of two thousand sheep, together with his five thousand head of horned cattle, lands, and place of residence, for his entire native state, and be compelled to go back there and live out the balance of his days, but I fear this would be too extravagant an assertion to make without first consulting the old sailor upon the subject. Had not this flock met with the accident of 1854, it would now, probably, number four thousand and more. This flock of sheep was not raised upon such lands as are generally esteemed good for the business, nor in what is considered a fair sheep-raising section of Texas, and the old sailor has told me that for weeks together his sheep were left entirely to themselves, and always without a herder. They were raised, however, upon a peculiar spot, otherwise they must have been herded. This spot, the reader, if he pleases, can take almost any map of the United States and directly see. It is on the Gulf of Mexico, a narrow neck of land or peninsula, extending from opposite the town of Matagorda down to Pascavallo, the entrance to Matagorda bay. The grass of this range was eaten down years ago by cattle, which made it better for sheep, and it being narrow and nearly surrounded by water (consequently having no wolves upon it), the sheep were suffered to go for weeks together unlooked for, and the only herding they got was at occasional times, when some one or more would go up the peninsula and bring them down for the purpose of working with them or to keep them from getting too far away from home. This neck of land is now fenced across, *I believe;* and it is my impression that there is no live stock property in these United States anywhere else, all things considered, that is paying a better interest than is this flock of sheep, numbering, as I said, nearly sixteen hundred head, and fenced into a pasture where they require no feeding, herding, or sheltering from one year's end to another. I don't know but the thirteen head of sheep that commenced this flock would have reached its present number, or the number it would have been without the accident, in some other countries with due attention, but to have been turned out to shift for themselves, winter and summer, as were these few head, it is doubtful whether they would have done as well anywhere else on the face of the earth. The old sailor told me that his sheep would have done much better had he been more particular about having his lambs come at the right season of the year. He says he has known many of his lambs to die from being dropped in the chilly, rainy weather of winter. The best protection that his sheep ever has is the banks of the beach, which, in places, are high enough to break the wind to some extent.

Now in conclusion about this flock of sheep. If such work as this can be done in western Texas, upon lands which, for the sheep business, nobody pretends are to be compared with the undulating, hilly, and mountainous portions of its interior, is there not good reason to believe that this country is to be second to none in the world for the raising of mutton and growing of wool? and does it not deserve the attention of those who are looking for new countries most suitable for this business, with the intention of engaging in it? It seems to me that it does.

I might go on and enumerate many instances of good success at the sheep business in western Texas, but since everybody is finding out its adaptation to the growing of wool, through the papers and different channels, I will not occupy time and space in this way.

A large portion and different sections of western Texas seem to be better adapted to raising sheep than to anything else. Much of this country is high, rolling, and dry, and to all appearances could not be bettered for the purpose in question. Experience is every day proving this part of the world to be everything that it seems to be for the sheep and wool-growing business; and there are thousands of men in the southern, northern, and western states, the Canadas, and the eastern world, who would do well to come to western Texas and engage in this business.

There has been a good deal said of late in regard to the depression of the wool markets throughout the world. This, no doubt, should be a caution to those who are inclined to embark in the wool-growing business in some countries, but not to those who would commence it in western Texas. The truth is, with the right kind of sheep, wool can be produced in these parts for twelve cents per pound, and good muttons for a half dollar per head, and money in the business at that. But does any one suppose that good French merino wool is coming down anywhere near this figure, or even as low as twenty-five cents per pound, to remain any length of time? And who doubts that good lambs and wethers will bring from one to three dollars per head, for years to come, in Texas? At this time wethers or good muttons are sold for ready cash here at three to five dollars per head.

There is this to be considered by those who would make wool-growing their business. The sheep is a double producer in a compound sense of the word. 1st. In many flocks of this country a large number of the ewes have twin lambs, and many of them have two crops of lambs a year (but experience has proven that it would be better for them to have but three crops of lambs in two years, or, in other words, it would be better to have the ewe recover somewhat from the effects of suckling before dropping another lamb). 2d. The flesh of the sheep being good to eat, if there should not be a demand for its fleece, there might be for its carcass or the surplus of carcasses that the wool-grower might have on hand for sale. This being the case, by marketing his mutton he might be able to hold on to his wool for a better price, should he think proper, or, *vice versa*, sell his wool and hold on to his mutton. This, in a manner, gives the wool-grower two chances to one against the grower of other kinds of stock. But it is not every man's fortune to have a taste for the sheep business, or the patience to attend to sheep properly or in a way to make them very profitable. The hardier kinds of stock are much better for some men to raise, although there is not so much roughness and hardship attending the raising of sheep, and as an evidence of which I will here relate a circumstance. Having been in Australia, and when traveling in the interior of that beautiful island, upon which there are many millions of sheep, I frequently met with large flocks, and would often make inquiries of the shepherds pertaining to the business in that country. I, one day, when on a prospecting excursion for gold with a company of young men, accidentally came upon a flock of about three thousand sheep, with only a little girl and two shepherd dogs to look after them. After inquiring of the shy little girl, of twelve or thirteen years, who seemed to be almost afraid to talk to a stranger, where I could get some water. I went where she directed me, and there found a little hut and the mother of the little shepherdess, a Scotch woman of middle age, whom the cares of life seemed to have but little worn. This woman told me that she had the entire charge of this flock for weeks together, with only the assistance of her little daughter and her true shepherd-dogs. In the season of shearing, trimming of lambs, etc., they were, to a certain extent, relieved of their charge, but, generally speaking, the whole care of the flock devolved upon the mother and daughter the rest of the year; and during the day either one or the other was always with the sheep, unless, at times when they were brought within sight of home and left with the dogs. At night the flock was inclosed in a yard adjoining the little house of the shepherdess, in which there were many cracks and openings, but through which blustering snow never came to interfere with its comforts. I was curious to know why the care of this large flock of sheep was left to a woman, the like of which was unusual in the country, and asked many questions. I learned that it was the discovery of gold upon the island to which she owed her situation, this discovery having created a rush to the mines of nearly all the men in the country; the flock she was watching having been left in a small inclosure by its former shepherd where it was likely to starve, the owners, who were merchants in Melbourne, being unable just then to get any one else, she volunteered her services for a round price. "But," said she, the tears trickling down her cheeks, "I had a little b[illegible] to help me then, or I could never have thought of such a thing. More than a year since it pleased God to take him from us, and I had no one to help me then but my little daughter, whom you saw with the sheep.

Surely," she said, "when my little Johnny left us I thought I should die with grief; but being cheered up by those who were sent, for a while, to my relief and ssistance, I continued on, as best I could, until another year, all the miners left me again with only my ittle daughter. We have managed the flock, most of he time, by ourselves, and, with the help of these aithful dogs, got along very well." Thanking her or her kindness, and wishing her all possible good uck, I bade her good day, and went on my way, hinking of the trials and strange fortunes of poor mankind, and of the courage and fortitude of this oman. What other kind of stock could she have got long with as she did with these sheep? Of course t any, which is pretty good evidence that woolrowing in these mild climates is not attended with he roughness and hardiness that is required at the aising of cattle and horses, or even sheep, in colder ountries.

Now if a woman, with her little girl and shepherdogs, could do so much with a flock of three thousand heep in Australia, what could not a man, having one r more little boys, do at this business in western exas? or a couple of young men, for instance, who ere determined to make a fortune at the business? I t is the writer's intention to buy a flock of sheep, efore long, and commence the growing of wool in estern Texas. I shall go to some hilly or mountain ange, and erect a comfortable shanty or two for the ccommodation of my family, and then, with the assistance of my little boy, now in his ninth year, I will anage my flock, which I hope may number five hunred to begin with, but if it is not more than fifty, or ven as few as twenty-five, I am determined to make beginning, and the growing of wool in western exas shall be my business in the future, unless

Providence otherwise decrees. Should I start off to-morrow, as I am situated, I would not think of buying a foot of land, unless I might meet with a chance of buying a small tract which should suit me for a home and a sheep-range, and which I should buy (if at all) mostly on time, and upon comfortable terms. If I had plenty of money my first notion should be [illegible], a large tract, with present means as soon as I could find one that suited me. But as my means are very limited, I should look up a most suitable place for the raising of sheep, where I might feel myself justifiable in stopping temporarily, and where, with the permission of the owner of the survey, league, or grant upon which I might be, I could keep my flock and increase my store, until such time as I should be able to negotiate for lands of my own. Would not such a course as this be better for the beginner of small means, than for him to [illegible] in a stock-raising country without having any stock to bring on to it or money left to purchase a beginning of some kind of stock?

The time is coming when the beginner in the stock business in western Texas will have to purchase his lands at the start. That, at present, his money will not go as far as it now will. It will then be harder for the man of quite limited means to get into the wool-growing business in this delightful country. But it will be a long time before in this sheep region it is to be expected that settlers will be obliged to buy much land in order to carry on the business—perhaps fifty years.

Judging by the past, I should say that those who engage in the wool-growing business in western Texas, and have a taste for it, after learning a few important facts in regard to the management of sheep, will, in nine cases out of ten, succeed most admirably—such facts, for instance, as these: that sheep should not be let or driven out early in the morning before the dew is off, particularly into tall grass—short grass is best for sheep; they should not be suffered to run upon fresh prairie burns in the winter season, etc., etc., all of which facts can be readily learned from men of experience already in the country at the business. It has been the opinion of some, that in consequence of the great demand for sheep by those who have and are now getting into the business here, there must soon be a scarcity of sheep for sale everywhere in these parts. But thus far this opinion has proved incorrect. There has been for sale a plenty of sheep at the old town of Goliad, all along this season, and it is believed by many that there will continue to be a plenty of Mexican sheep offered at this place for years to come. This is a point where Mexican stock of different kinds is brought by Mexican traders, and as long as there is a demand for sheep, speculators will continue to bring them on. In fact I may safely say to any one who wishes to come to western Texas and engage in the business, he may come with a certainty of getting sheep somewhere here, should he prefer not to bring them with him. There are those here who have and others who will commence the sheep business and soon abandon it, for the want of experience and a taste for the pursuit. There will be some flocks offered by such men. I know of men here who have the wool haggled off their sheep, and thrown in the dirt together like pulled wool. They can hardly distinguish coarse from the fine quality. Most of such men will give up the business to those who are better qualified to carry it on. A great many who have recently come on from Vermont, New York, Ohio, and other states, have brought small flocks of good sheep with them by railroad and water. This makes a pretty costly beginning, but if it can be afforded, it is no doubt the best thing that a person, coming on to engage in the business, can do, that is, if he has been acquainted with sheep-raising.

The importation of sheep and hogs into western Texas is safer than the importation of horses and cattle. It is the impression of the writer and others that the demand for sheep here will cause speculators to bring them in across the country from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. They are already being brought from Missouri and Arkansas; and that they will be brought from both old and new Mexico and offered for sale in different parts of western Texas, is a certainty. Let me assure those who would like to know it, that there are a plenty of wide-awake fellows who know that this is bound to be a wool-growing country and that sheep are in great demand here, and not a few of them will try to make a little money by supplying this demand from wherever the sheep can be got. I should say to those who are coming, come on with or without your sheep; you can not well go amiss. It might be well for many of you to bring a few bucks to improve the flocks you may buy. I would say to Illinois, Ohio, and the western states, you might as well remember the sheep and wool-growing business, and bring your stock down here; we will give a good price for it. As for old New England, Vermont, and those countries where the grass grows out of the rocks, trudge along in your own way at anything you please, only send us a few more of your sheep, and some of those fellows who know so well how to manage them. This, remember, is the Australia of America, where we don't have to cut and cure a hundred tons of hay to winter a thousand sheep,—no not a pound. This is the place to live,—where now the Indian is no longer dangerous to the white man; where now an unsteady government and the roughness of society is no longer an objection to the country; where things have changed and have become not only endurable but pleasant and attractive; where, from various causes, the importance of the country has but recently been fully understood; and where now thousands of respectable and intelligent people, from all parts, are coming to make their fortunes and settle down for life.

IMPORTATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF STOCK.

The furnishing of improved and good blooded animals to the stock-growers of Texas, with which to improve their stock of different kinds, is to be an extensive business, in which many can and will profitably operate; and I believe the men who are best calculated for this work are generally living in the north. I do not allude to any particular section. The boys of Kentucky could, no doubt, do a glorious share in the improvement of the stock of Texas, particularly her cattle and mules, and they are already here at it; but as yet they have hardly made an impression. The great work is hardly begun.

I am not the fool to suppose that all I have to say must be listened to or followed as infallibly correct; I am aiming at the truth, and what better can any one do. I have a favorite idea, that I will here suggest, in regard to raising fine bulls in Texas. For several years I have been engaged in the purchase and driving of beef and work-cattle for a shipper in western Texas. I long since discovered that there are now and then improved cows scattered over our prairies, among the common stock of the country, and sometimes there are stocks of cattle that have quite a number of such animals among them. Their owners, as a general thing, do not esteem them very highly, as they know not their blood and value, and often do not distinguish them from their other cattle. Some of these cows are half breeds from Durham sires and Texas dams; some quarter breeds, and others more or less mixed with improved blood. I have often thought that if one had a suitable pasture, which might be of the cheapest lands in Texas, and was able, he could purchase these cows when and where he might meet with them, and bring them into the pasture, and there place with them a thorough-bred animal, from which he could raise a very good quality of bulls, that would answer remarkably well, [illegible] upon our prairies, [illegible] the general improvement of the common cattle of the country. The [illegible] of [illegible] our cattle [illegible] to improve, and finally bring his stock to a state of perfection. Meanwhile, he could be [illegible] their grade, until he would finally be able to raise [illegible] improved or thorough-bred animals, that would answer to turn upon our [illegible]. As his cows, [illegible] the thorough-bred animal, would cost him but a moderate amount, it is plain to see he would be enabled to sell young bulls for much less than it would cost to import them, and still make a profit. And although these animals would not, of course, be of pure or full blood, yet they would be what the stock-grower would not be afraid to buy, and much better for him to commence with than imported animals that might die from neglect, or which he might not feel inclined to attend to in a way to make it profitable. The partially-improved cows, of which I speak as being scattered over the country, are generally from animals that have now and then been brought here and turned loose, and have died from neglect or some other cause. Sometimes they are issues from some one's animal who is attempting to improve his stock. By selecting the choicest of unimproved Texas cows, even, and using them in the way above described, a person could make money in the business, and the stock-grower had better have half breeds, that are raised in the country, with which to commence the improvement of his stock, than to have many of the [illegible] that are imported.

Near the [illegible] of [illegible] there is a pasture of several leagues, recently fenced, now containing between three and four thousand head of animals. The owner of this pasture, [illegible] some years since, purchased a Durham bull, which he has kept most of the time in a pasture adjoining his dwelling, having the access to his cows [illegible] which cows, which are of the common Texas stock. [illegible] The [illegible] has several [illegible] half [illegible] from [illegible] mals, and is now [illegible] years, [illegible] and every year, [illegible] that [illegible] of [illegible] in his large [illegible], [illegible] from the common [illegible] of the country, how [illegible] better could a person do [illegible] of Texas cows, [illegible] I have alluded? The [illegible] large pasture [illegible] in the [illegible]. I know of no other person [illegible] the country who [illegible] a pasture, [illegible] improved [illegible] by bringing on a [illegible] bull, [illegible], [illegible] a person can raise fine stock here in the country for sale, all things considered, [illegible] and [illegible] better advantage than he can import [illegible] for sale. I may be mistaken in this, for I am well aware that there are several gentlemen in the country who are making fortunes by bringing on improved stock from the north and elsewhere, which they dispose of at good prices.

I said that the gentleman having the large pasture purchased a fine bull several years since. He has since purchased several fine bulls of the enterprising Kentucky boys who are here, and is now in advance of any one in this part of the country in the way of improving his cattle. I presume that not one in a hundred of the stock-growers of western Texas have made a beginning at the improvement of their cattle as yet.

There are millions of useful animals in Texas, that are not half as good as they should be, and the man who will come here with good improved stock and settle in the right kind of place, can raise them and sell to good advantage all he can part with. I am acquainted with a young man, the brother of a noted and wealthy wool-grower in Vermont, who came to western Texas several years ago, bringing with him a fine flock of Spanish merino sheep, all the way from Vermont, and selling them out directly, returned to the same state and brought on not only a fine flock of the same kind of sheep, both ewes and bucks, but male and female calves, and a fine lot of pigs, from all of which he has since been raising and selling at most profitable rates. The gentleman finds it impossible to supply the demand for his improved animals from the increase of his stock, and consequently continues to bring them on from the north for sale and to keep up the excellence of his stock. He has exchanged more or less of his fine stock for mares, and is now raising mules in connection with his importing and fine stock business. Last winter he brought on from Vermont and other states his fourth flock of sheep; this making him an extensive importer of fine stock into the state of Texas from the northern states every year, but one, since his first arrival here with a flock of sheep. His last flock was partially made up of Ohio sheep; and he also brought on, from somewhere in the north, a lot of fine stock for another gentleman. And right here, to show the reader how the importer of improved stock into Texas may subject himself to the danger of losses,—of which I have spoken,—I will tell him something of the management of the gentleman for whom this stock was brought on. The stock consisted of some three hundred heavy wooled sheep, ewes principally, and some ten or twelve young Durham bulls and heifers,—(they were calves, yearlings and two years old.) After the first-mentioned gentleman had landed this stock at Powder Horn, in Texas, from off the ship across the gulf, it was given over to a couple of young men who were sent to take charge of it and drive it up the country. These young men, or boys, knew nothing about northern stock, and could not have known much about stock of any kind, for they started out upon the prairie and so managed as to be caught out in the night, miles from any dwelling, on the open prairie, and instead of watching their sheep, they laid down and went to sleep. The flock wandered away from their camp or wagon, and the wolves got after it and killed some twenty head of the sheep, which cost, delivered here, the snug little sum of nearly twenty dollars per head. They gathered up the balance of their scattered flock next day, and went on, now driving too fast, and then too slow, or sometimes laying up when they had no business to be, starving their stock around some house where the grass was all eaten out, (it being the dead of winter), and so managing that by the time they had driven four or five days, or before hey reached their destination, nearly all their fine Durham stock died, from the effects of the voyage and he abuse of these young men, who were sent to drive hem to their new home. Had there been some one sent for this stock who had considered that the voyage had injured it more or less, and that it should be driven and managed carefully, it no doubt would have reached its destination, and have done well. He paid double its value in the north, and the young men, or boys, should never have been sent for it, which proves a want of experience and attention as much as it does danger in the business. The gentleman who brought them on and delivered them to these youngsters, went on foot with his own flock, and arrived safely at home, in the interior, without loss or trouble; and he told me, when meeting him on the road with this very flock, that he could not wish for better success than he was having, or a better business than he was doing. I now hear that this fall he will go out to Vermont or Ohio and bring to Texas his fifth flock of improved sheep and other stock.

This gentleman's ranche is situated on a beautiful clear stream of water, where almost all the country in his vicinity is covered with scattering trees, the shade of which is just the thing for his imported and improved stock. The grass of his lands and range is the better quality of sedge, which is short and fine, and grows around the trees and upon the little open prairies, which are skirted with the scattering trees of these timbered prairies. The timber upon his land, in places, is sufficiently thick to enable him to take out enough to fence it up into fields and pastures, and leave enough standing for the purpose of shade, firewood, and other conveniences. Stock importers require more or less inclosures and pastures for their fine stock. This gentleman told me long ago that he had sold a large number of animals, getting for his bucks from twenty-five to a hundred dollars. Numbers of such men as this could come here and settle over the country, at different points, bringing with them their fine stock, the increase of which, together with prudent importation, would make them rich. They could sell to the stock-growers around them, often taking horses, mares, cattle, half-breeds, or Mexican sheep, in exchange for their animals, and become Texas stock-growers, as well as improvers and importers. Men coming here for this purpose should not be particular about bringing the most expensive stock at first, unless they might be the owners of much. But they should bring well-bred if not thorough-bred stock. Bring no humbugs, as that would result badly for those who might bring and palm them off. There came to western Texas, a year or two since, some men from Missouri with a large drove of jacks. The jacks were all haltered, shod, corn-fed, and fat,—veritable *jacks of renown.* They exchanged them for horses, mares, and mules, and the stock-growers of the country who purchased them thought they were getting great bargains by giving ten to a dozen mules and horses for one of these corn-fed jacks, with shoes and halter-muzzles on. But after the Missourians had got away with their horses and mules, some one whispered that these jacks were nothing but half-breeds, or [illegible], El Paso Mexican jacks, which had been driven around into Missouri when young, and after being pushed through on corn and fixed up for sale, were brought to western Texas to gull the stock-growers with, which did not flatter the purchasers so much, although they proved valuable jacks to them, they not having as good or better ones, and some of them none at all. They were probably half-breed jacks, raised in Missouri from Mexican jacks and ordinary American jacks or something of the kind; and of course after selling these animals for Kentucky or American jacks, they could not, after practising such an imposition, come into the same section of country and do well with another lot of jacks, although there are many men here who are glad to get half breed jacks, but they do not like to pay for full bloods and get but half breeds.

There are men in the country who have brought numbers of improved Durham bulls here (*of course they were Durham*) and sold them for from seventy-five to a hundred dollars each at a year old. Many a dozen calves have I killed or "deaconed" at three or five days old, when the milk of the cow became good, which would have made much better animals than some I have seen that were brought here and sold, at one or two years old, three hundred dollars each. Persons bringing stallions, jacks, or bulls here, should bring them while young, if possible. It does not make so much difference about the age of sheep, and not so much with the horse kind as with cattle. I believe that from a year to two years old is a better age than older for horned stock to bring to Texas, although they are brought here of all ages, and when properly attended to, do very well. Swine, as a matter of course, should be brought when quite young. The trouble and expense of bringing a half dozen little pigs, carefully boxed up, would not be equal to that of bringing one grown hog, and nothing like as disagreeable. Too much attention can not be given to animals when on their way here. It matters not what kind of stock it may be, it should have the very best of attention on the way, whether brought by land or water, and when arriving here from across the gulf, it should be taken at once to a suitable place for keeping it—that is, it should be taken (hogs, perhaps, excepted,) far enough back from the coast to find for it high, rolling, and dry lands, good clear water, and a plenty of shade, where it will be sure to find a good quality of grass. Imported stock generally requires more or less feeding in the dead of winter, until it becomes well acclimated, and even then there should always be a supply of hay or fodder laid in, in case it may be required, unless your stock should be upon a musquete range or a plat of Bermuda. The fall or winter season is the best time to bring such animals here. By being brought in the fall or winter, the warm weather of summer comes gradually upon them, and with care they are very sure to live and acclimate finely.

The spoiling of the cow's bag, from having more milk than the calf can take, is made an objection to improving the prairie cattle of Texas. But that objection amounts to nothing, if the importer has got the beef Durham breed, which are not noted for superior milking qualities; and whether they are or not, I know they will answer first rate for this country. I have traveled many hundred miles in the interior of Australia, and never in that country saw anything of the kind but improved cattle; and I believe all the cattle there are of improved English breeds, and many years ago there were ten million head upon that great island. Never did I hear any complaint of the spoiling of cows' bags in that country in consequence of their giving more milk than the calf required, and of course the calf is raised there as in Texas—or, rather, generally speaking, nothing but the calf takes any of the milk from the mother. I know of several extensive stock-growers here (and one is our ex-lieutenant governor) who are improving from the Durham; and they make no complaint of this kind; and if this is an objection, the introduction of male animals and a gradual improvement, from the first to the second remove, and so on, would obviate this difficulty. Let no one give this objection to the general improvement of Texas cattle the least weight, if he has the beef Durham breed to bring here. Everybody knows that the cow of this breed is more inclined to fat than milk.

There are thousands of people in Texas who would be glad to get animals with which to improve their milch cows, or from which to raise good ones. There are different kinds that would pay well to bring here. The milch Durham or the red milchers from Kentucky would do very well. There are, no doubt, other kinds, with which the writer is unacquainted, and some that he knows of that he can not designate as of any particular kind, that would be first rate to bring here. Let those who bring stock of this or any other kind to Texas, to dispose of as good or thorough-bred, bring with them vouchers from respectable men of standing in their communities that their animals are what they represent them to be and not humbugs. They can then advertise their stock in the journals of the country, and offer it at public sale or otherwise. They can then, with propriety, point out to the stock-growers of the country the many advantages that would result from a general improvement of their animals, and induce them to engage in the work. After having established a reputation in the business, the importer's word would be a sufficient voucher for the good blood and excellency of his animals. I believe that nothing could be done, with the same trouble and expense, that would add more to the wealth and prosperity of Texas than to turn loose, upon her prairies, among her cattle throughout the state, ten or twenty thousand beef Durham, or good improved bulls, that is, if these animals were raised in the country, so that they might not die from exposure. But to raise them in the country, of course there must first be extensive importations and improvements.

It will be a glorious day for Texas when her stock of different kinds is well improved, particularly when her cattle and sheep are like the millions of these animals upon the island of Australia,—when she is not outdone in the quality of her millions of useful animals. What is more beautiful for the husbandman to look upon than a large drove of entirely thorough-bred beef-cattle, or a yoke of the right kind of oxen; a lot of excellent milch cows; a flock of superior mutton, or a flock of fine wool sheep, heavily coated down to their toes and up to their eyes in wool; a drove of mules, fifteen hands high and well put up; or beautiful and serviceable horses, and solid, heavy, and profitable hogs! The day will come when the prairies, hills, and valleys of Texas, will be covered with such animals, and then the LONE STAR state will be the admired of all the great American constellations; then it is that the United States can boast of an Australia that is not across the wide deep, but near at hand, joined to her by the ties of sisterhood, in ready communication both by land and water, and all the relations that can make a great and free people a unit n feeling and interest.

In conclusion, let no man think of coming to Texas with valuable animals, unless he has a taste for the business—unless he delights in the raising and taking care of such animals. For no other kind of a man can make money at the business; and such men, I know, can do as well as any one would wish to do at nything of the kind. Some men have no more business with this kind of work than has the "huge paw" f the honest laboring man with Blackstone. It is a business that requires constant attention, and no man ut one who loves to feed and nurse his animals, hose knowledge of them is sufficient to enable him o understand their natures and instincts, whose sensibility is such that he can not bear to see them suffer, ho loves to linger around them and consider their beauty and usefulness, watch their improvement or decline, and readily render any attention they may need, is fit to bring fine stock to Texas with the idea of raising from it as a business, or making money with it. Let those fellows who can lie down and sleep by their fine stock, if need be, and watch over and take care of them on their long journey, and when here give the very best attention—I say let such men, or those who are able to hire such men, bring fine stock to Texas, and they are sure to make money with it, and no other kind of men can make money by importing improved animals into Texas, either to sell or raise from.

I have written this last and made many remarks that may appear as discouraging to the importation of northern or foreign animals into Texas, only from fear that my remarks in favor of the business might induce those to pitch into the thing who have no business with the like. Some one who, perhaps, without this precaution, would start out for Texas with a lot of valuable animals, whose knowledge of them might be but slight, and who might trust to others equally ignorant to take care of them, and after their dying or doing badly for the want of attention and good management, would curse the writer of this book for getting him into such a scrape.

A year or two since I met a couple of Irishmen who were driving a fine Durham bull. They had landed in Texas just the day before. It was a warm day, and the bull had his tongue out, and although the men were on foot, they were driving the heavy fellow too fast. I asked them whose animal he was, and where they were taking him? which they told me, and added that he was brought from Kentucky. I then told them that they were not in the north where that bull was raised, and unless they stopped pushing him they would never reach their destination with him alive. I alarmed them considerably, and they afterward moved him quietly along. Had they continued hurrying this animal as they were doing when I met them, he would never have been worth anything in this country, even had they got him to his owner in the interior.

I might mention cases of caution in regard to imported horses, jacks, and other animals, but trust I have said and shall say enough to the wise.

Now you that bring fine stock here, consider well what you do. With the right management and attention there is nothing that would pay a person better; with bad management and neglect there is nothing that would more certainly be attended with loss. Bring for a beginning, until experience shall have taught you, the beef Durham or beef kinds of cattle principally; the milk kind to a certain extent; not overgrown horses, but something like the Morgan species of the north; the improved coarse kinds of sheep to a certain extent, but the finer kinds principally. I believe what passes in the north for French merinos are the best fine wools for Texas, as they are more hardy and better protected with an oily and heavy fleece than the Saxon or extremely fine wools, and can stand our climate without shelter of any kind. As for hogs, let every one be his own judge. I believe the big Berkshire is considered a first rate hog for Texas.

There is one thing about which, I trust, by this time the reader will agree with me, and that is that the man of limited means had better come here and purchase our common stock and improve it with animals that he may bring with him or afterward get, than to invest all his means in foreign stock and run the risk of getting it safely here and acclimating it successfully; that is, if his intention is to become a Texas stock-grower and not the furnisher of imported and improved animals.

I will here repeat that sheep are brought to Texas and managed with better success in the hilly regions by strangers or those who are new in the country, understanding the business elsewhere, than any other kind of imported stock, unless it is goats, a kind of stock that I have as yet said nothing of, but which, if I mistake not, is to be highly esteemed and very useful in this country.

GOATS.

To present this subject in a light that seems to me most important, I will introduce an article from the Springfield Register upon the Cashmere goat:

"Some twenty years ago Dr. Davis, of South Carolina, at that time holding a government office in Turkey, actuated by a patriotism which was creditable to himself and likely to prove beneficial to his countrymen, thought of the possibility of introducing into the United States some specimens of the Cashmere goat—the celebrated animals from whose wool is manufactured the Cashmere shawls. These animals are justly prized by the people of Thibet, who reap a heavy revenue from the sale of the wool, and who had preserved the stock jealously from exportation. Dr. Davis, with an ardor equal to that attributed to Jason, in his expedition in search of the golden fleece, obtained the consent of the Sultan, and, organizing an expedition, entered the land of Cashmere, and obtained nine goats, two males and seven females. After great vicissitudes, and with a loss of several of his party, he succeeded in bringing these animals to Constantinople, whence he shipped them to Carolina. Six years ago the pure bloods had increase in number to thirty, besides having been extensively crossed with the native goat throughout South Carolina and the adjoining states. Some enterprising agriculturists of Tennessee recently organized a company, and having purchased some of the pure stock, entered into the business of raising the wool grown from the cross-breeds. We condense from a statement furnished us of this matter the following facts:

"The wool from a third cross and a common goat is exceedingly fine, and is now manufactured in Scotland, where it is worth eight dollars per pound; each animal yielding three fleeces, averaging three pounds each, during the year. These animals have already been successfully raised as far north as New York, and the quality of the mixed breed wool has been decided to be not inferior to that used in the Cashmere shawls, so extensively imported into this country. It is desirable to encourage these efforts to improve the blood and the product of the animals. The production of this wool ought to be universally adopted; it does not require full blood, but the product of pure blood and the ordinary goat of the country, is all that is required. It has been ascertained that the wool from goats three generations removed from the pure blood, each time crossed with the common goat, is of a most superior quality. B. F. Bristow, of Jacksonville, has some pure blood bucks, which he proposes shall be taken by the farmers of Illinois to cross with the common goats, and letters addressed to him will receive prompt attention, and be responded to with full information.

"We trust that our farmers will take this matter in hand, and reap, at a very small cost, all the benefits to be derived from the product of a superior wool."

Now in regard to the growing of this Cashmere wool in western Texas, I have to say that the common goat of the country is already quite plentiful here, and that both old and new Mexico, I should judge from accounts, are half covered with them. Although I have had several hundred of these animals in charge in this country, and have seen a good deal of them in different parts of the world, I do not profess to know much about them. So far as sheep are concerned, I was raised with my nose at the grindstone. But goats I always looked upon as an animal of little value, and for some reason or other never had an inclination to learn much of them. But converting them into wool-producers of a most valuable kind, and bringing them before the world in the light that the Register and others are doing, inclines me to think that they may yet become very useful animals, and that western Texas will be second to no place in the world for the production of this cashmere wool, from which is made the finest of fabrics.

The same remarks in regard to the raising of sheep will generally apply pretty well to the raising of goats; although the common goat will live and do well where the sheep will not, and to do very well I believe require a somewhat bushy range. If heretofore they have, in many countries, been comparatively useless, they have been most at home upon comparatively useless lands—lands of sterility, whose only growth was weeds and bushes, or possibly half naked hills with only here and there a spear of grass, a weed, and scrubby bush, or briar. But when they become improved so as to produce wool worth eight dollars per pound, if possible, or even one dollar, would it be prudent to let them run among bushes and briars where they would tare, rub, and pull out more or less of their valuable coat, every fiber of which, at the price per pound mentioned in the Register, would be an item. It seems to me that then they would require about the same kind of range and treatment as do sheep, in which case immense portions of western Texas would be just the country for them. Should they retain, after their improvement, the nature and habit, and require the treatment of the common goat, then they certainly would nowhere do better than in this country; for I have, time and again, for years, seen thrifty and most productive flocks of goats in all parts of western Texas; and again, I have frequently seen large numbers of goats with flocks of sheep in Texas, said to be kept with the sheep for the purpose of keeping the sheep healthy, and these goats seemed to be thrifty and productive, and appeared to be doing as well as though they were away from the sheep in a flock by themselves. If, then, the Cashmere goat can be successfully and profitably crossed with the common goat of the Carolinas, Tennessee, and Illinois, it most certainly can be more promisingly crossed with the millions of common goats of Texas and Mexico, where they require no food, winter nor summer, but what they crop from the range.

There is in Texas a few, and in Mexico thousands, of goats that are peculiar for their beauty and the value of their skins for fancy and water-proof or storm-proof pantaloons. They are called by Texans mountain goats, and they differ from the common goat of the country in their coat, which is, along the back and sides, from head to tail, down to their knees and gambols, a long, flouncing fleece of hair which gives them, if they are not beautiful in symmetry, that appearance at least. Having never seen one shorn or made inquiry upon the point, I can only say that I believe them not to be of the ugly form of the common goat, but pretty in body and general appearance. It appears to me that this goat would be far better to cross with the Cashmere than the common, short-haired, ugly-looking goat of the country. If length of staple in the fleece, and beauty in general appearance of body, is an object in the improvement, then I must be right. And again, their natural proclivity to a fleece must necessarily give a greater weight and better staple to the fleece of their progeny with the Cashmere, than can be given to the issue of the common, short-haired and Cashmere goat. If, then, I am right, we have two superior breeds of goats under consideration. Shall they be brought together in western Texas, and the fleece of their issue made an article of profitable export? Are there those coming to Texas who will consider this matter, and possibly bring on with them some of the full blood or cross breed Cashmeres, and go into this business? or, I might say, lead the way and experiment in the business, and demonstrate to the world that our inexhaustible range and millions of Texas and Mexican goats are to be useful in the production of Cashmere wool.

I see there is a recent importation of these animals from the old world. There is no doubt a prospect of converting the millions of cheap Texas and Mexican goats into superior wool-producing animals.

ALPACA SHEEP.

Many years ago, when the writer was in New England, there was an opinion prevalent among some of the wool-growers of western Massachusetts, that the South American Lima or Alpaca sheep could be successfully reared upon the Green Mountains; and a number of gentlemen had it in contemplation to purchase a large tract of that chain of mountains for the purpose of raising animals upon a pretty extensive scale from the Alpaca and the large English breeds of sheep. These gentlemen were of the opinion that the cross could be successfully made, and that the growing of the wool of these cross bred animals would be a profitable business. That the Alpaca sheep could be raised upon the Green Mountains, they felt sufficiently assured from evidence near at hand, which was that a gentleman had a small flock of twelve or fifteen Alpacas, the most of which he had raised upon these mountains. But by careful inquiry and investigation it became doubtful with them about successfully crossing these Limas with our large English sheep, and they gave up the idea they had of sending to South America for a number of the animals with which to make a start. Since then I have heard but little of these Lima sheep, the wool of a certain kind of which I have always understood is valuable for the manufacture of shawls; and if there is any part of the United States where they can be profitably raised, I should suppose that the mountains of Texas would be admirably adapted to this purpose.

I saw, in a number of Harper's Weekly or Monthly, a year or two since, an account of a small drove of Alpacas that were driven from South America, through Mexico, to the United States, and shipped thence to England. This driving was described as a tedious and risky business. If these animals are worth all this trouble and expense to Englishmen, and can be profitably reared in eastern climates, do they not deserve the attention of Americans, and are not the mountains of Texas the place for them? I heard a gentleman say, who pretends to know, that they would do exceedingly well upon the mountains of western Texas.

CAMELS.

Camels are already here in western Texas, breeding and doing good service for the government. And who knows how many of these ancient and hitherto, to us, valueless animals that have been so long in the hands of the Arab and aborigines, or almost exclusively controlled by people of little cultivation and enterprise, are to become a hundred fold more useful in the hands of an enlightened and great people!

JACKS AND JENNETS.

I believe I have said nothing about the raising of jacks, as a business, in Texas. It is not long since I heard the representative of the district in which I am living telling about an old gentleman who has a jennet that supports his family. He says he is well acquainted with the old gentleman, and knows him to be a truthful man. This jennet has brought him a colt every year for several years back, some of which he has sold for five hundred dollars when quite young. And from this animal the old man has raised a stock of females, besides her jack colts, which he sells only, that would produce jacks enough in a few years, if well attended, to make a person rich.

I have frequently seen in this country half breeds from Mexican jennets and fine Kentucky jacks, that would compare well with many animals of their kind that I have seen in different parts of the world, said to be superior, well-bred animals; and I am prepared to say that almost any person in the north who has a fine jack, and a little money to spare, could bring him here, and, by securing a number of good Mexican jennets at a low figure, he could get rich raising jacks—provided his management was judicious. He would have to take some pains to acclimate his jack, and keep him in good order for the first year or two. His use to some one, over and above what he would require of him with his jennets, would pay for this and more too. The keeping of his jennets would cost him nothing but a little watching. Neither would the keeping of his increase cost him anything, unless he preferred to grain his young jacks, which no doubt would pay in the end. If he were situated upon a good musquete range he would require no grain to raise half breed jacks, that would bring fine prices at from two to four years of age. I have heard of good Mexican jennets selling in Mexico for two dollars and a half per head. They can now be bought at a low figure in western Texas.

DOGS.

I believe I have considered the stock-raising business and the improvement of stock in Texas, with remarks upon all the different kinds of animals that are really useful and necessary in our country, unless it is some of a different species, the raising of which would not constitute a stock-grower of any country. There is of the canine species a great surplus in this country, but instead of shepherd-dogs, which would be useful here, this surplus is principally made up of prowling wolves, and the mischievousness of the one determines, to a certain extent, the value of the other. These shepherd-dogs are brought on from the north, to a certain extent, and I am told are in great demand by the many who have gone and are going into the sheep business. I suppose there are more of them brought by land, with droves of sheep, than in any other way,—which sheep, I hear, since the beginning of this work, as I anticipated would be the case, are being pretty extensively brought across the country from Illinois, Ohio, Tennessee, and other states, into northern and western Texas. It is almost useless, I suppose, to say to those who are coming here for the purpose of raising sheep, that they should bring with them, if possible, more or less of these shepherd-dogs.

As game is abundant, pointers, setters, and other hunting dogs, are valuable here.

FOWLS.

The raising of fowls in western Texas is the easiest of all imaginable employments. Not far from my place of writing a farmer, during the fowl-raising season, keeps his little negroes in the herding of turkeys, hundreds of which he raises annually, and which live upon insects and grasshoppers in the prairie and about his premises. Chickens and all other fowls that a person may see fit to keep, do remarkably well, and can be raised in this country at little or no expense. There are fowls in the north that would be an object to get in Texas; but of the [illegible] Shanghai enough are here, and can be easily obtained.

GENERAL REMARKS.

I believe I have not distinctly conveyed the idea that some stock-growers of Texas raise stock of all kinds, in preference to raising one kind exclusively. One I spoke of, who brands about three thousand calves, and one who raises about a thousand mules, and this is their almost exclusive business; but others I know who raise cattle, horses, mules, sheep, goats, hogs, and even jacks, in moderate numbers of each kind, and also cultivate a snug field of corn, a plenty of vegetables and fruits. By so doing they can better manage to keep their stock near home, neither kind particularly interfering with the other, as the cattle range in the valleys, the sheep and goats upon the hill-tops, and the hogs in the bottoms or timbers. The horses generally take their choice of the cattle-range, and at times mingle a good deal with them, and again the herds of horses and mules are entirely y themselves, and will have no other stock with hem.

Our government has been in the habit of sending er agents to Mexico for mules. She now consumes a arge amount of the mules, horses, and oxen raised in Texas. She does much toward establishing the price f these animals, and is apt to pay pretty well for hem. Government contractors in the transportation usiness, also consume a great many of these animals, articularly oxen. But who are to be the great consumers of western Texas' surplus productions? Her xports will of course be mostly north and eastward; er beef, either fresh or salt, is to be consumed by the ities along the whole Atlantic coast of the United States; her mules and horses by the planters of the outh and farmers of the west; and her wool, of whatever kind, which I believe will yet be the most extensive article of export, by the manufacturers of the orth and east. Then who should feel an interest in western Texas? I answer, the north, south, east, and west. But if the north and east are awake to their nterests, they will get and hold a controlling influnce in the trade of Texas. The east should look with earnestness in this direction, for it is western Texas hat will eventually be able to furnish the looms of New England with wool at about half its present cost, nd leave a handsome margin for the grower.

If I am right about the ability of western Texas to give wool at about half its present cost to eastern manufacturers, should not the east push forward and secure a steamship communication between Boston and Texas, and at the same time show to the woolgrowing world the great importance of western Texas as a wool-producing region? Dot the hills and mountains and the immense sheep-ranges of western Texas with the wooly tribe, and American manufacturers will supply the place of imported goods to a great extent in the future. Why should not the east reap some of the advantages of the large and growing trade of Texas, for which so many of her articles of manufacture and export are so well adapted?

The importance of Texas and her future resources are getting to be so well understood, that she is now watched with a jealous eye by different marts of the world. Her eventual extensive communication with New Orleans by railroad, will make her the principal dependence of New Orleans for her fresh beef and meat of all kinds. Who, in western Texas, would not be delighted to see a train of cars rolling away from the foot of her hills, over her plains, and through her forests, on to New Orleans, occupied by happy passengers, and freight-trains loaded with beeves and veal-cattle, hogs and mules, and piled several tiers or stories high with sheep, to be laid down in good time and order for the butcher or purchaser! Surely such a road will some day, not far off, make the people of western Texas glad, and will be the pride of and a strong hold of the Crescent City upon our trade, partiality and sympathies.

What a different country would our western Texas be if it were within a few hours' pleasant ride of New Orleans. How would the cooped-up citizens of that place rush for the mountain air of western Texas, in the dull season and heat of summer, if that road, already commenced, was pushed on to completion. And how are these roads, the life of time in these days, to thread the rich mantle of western Texas and carry life and joy to the hearts of her people in the shortest possible time! Only by setting forth the excellency of our country, and showing to the world its great advantages, which will call to our assistance thousands of enterprising men in the way of permanent settlers, whose interests and well-being would prompt them to labor for the cause of railroads, and whose patronage would be the needed support of such roads.

THE GRASSES OF WESTERN TEXAS.

Having glanced over the different kinds of stock-raising, as it is now carried on in Texas, and touched upon the general improvement of the inferior stock of the country, etc., I will now venture an opinion that nowhere can the raising of stock of any kind be made more pleasant and profitable, at present and for ages to come, than in these regions of country, and I will attempt to show the correctness of this opinion.

In the first place, there are grasses in western Texas that, in connection with the advantages of the climate, for stock-raising purposes, I believe are not surpassed in the known world. The names of the most superior of these grasses are Musquite, Bermuda, and Buffalo. The principal grass, however, of a large portion of this country is the Sedge. This, mixed with Wire grass and other spontaneous growth along much of the coast of the country, does very well at present for the raising of the hardier kinds of stock, particularly cattle, as the business is now carried on; and further in the interior, upon the more hilly and mountainous portions of our country, this Sedge grass being shorter and finer, does very well for sheep, and will continue to do so until things become more crowded here.

The day is coming when this fair land, this most favored of creation, must produce and contribute to the wealth and happiness of millions. It can not be that a country like this, which gives forth in its rough, uncultivated state, a constant grazing livelihood to millions of useful animals, is to be always overlooked and forever left the mere play-grounds of a few idlers, who do not appreciate the lovely spot that God has given them; which country, if generally brought into a good state of cultivated grazing, would be, to say the least, the great ever-green pasture of America,—the richest grass-plat of the world. I do not say that there are no industrious men in western Texas. But that there is a want of industry and of different men here to make the country what it should be, or, in other words, to develop its capacities for production and usefulness, there is not a doubt.

O that I could see western Texas, its planting portion excepted, one broad sheet of cultivated Musquete and Bermuda, furnishing the consuming world more beef, wool, horses, mules, etc., than any other portion of the United States of the same extent. I wish these men of energy and taste, who are looking abroad for new countries with the intention of purchasing lands for stock-raising purposes, of any kind, might be induced to come here and travel over this country and satisfy themselves in regard to its excellency and wonderful adaptation to this business.

But to return to the work of showing the correctness of my opinion. This musquete grass, that I said was so fine, is of several kinds, but generally known as the curly and bearded. There are large portions of southern, western, and northwestern Texas, that are covered with these musquete grasses, and when I have said that they yield abundantly, and that in the months of November, December, January, February, and March, (of course our coldest months,) the cattle running upon a musquete range are as fat as stock ever gets to be by feeding upon grass only, in any country, and that one single man, with a half dozen Mexican horses, can, in the way things are now managed here, attend to a thousand head of cattle, and that horses, sheep, hogs, etc., can be managed comparatively easy and cheap. I have said enough, if true, to prove that the stock-business here, so far as profit and labor are concerned, is second to the same business in no part of the world. And there are plenty of good men who would vouch for the truth of what I say. But Texas will soon be much better than now for the raising of stock; as her different kinds of stock are improved, so will her superior grasses be cultivated, and the means of keeping stock bettered. And yet, although the country is to be, some day, settled up and completely occupied, and mostly, too, by stock-growers, its capacities for useful grazing will be many fold greater than now, and the profits of the stock-business here are not [illegible] some decrease. At present, perhaps, nineteen twentieths of the grasses of the country go to decay, or are consumed by fire. This annual waste of grass will be gradually consumed by stock, and when too closely grazed, much of it will eventually give out and be succeeded by weeds. This seems to be the fate of the finest grass, which suggests the idea that native vegetation, like the native man, must be pushed away, or else it must be cultivated.

I have talked of the profits of the stock-business here in years to come, and let me take a wide and far-off view of the case. The Bermuda grass, I believe, is not a native of this country, but nothing grows more luxuriantly than it grows anywhere in these latitudes. There is not a sand-hole or a sand-hill in western Texas where it would not grow with apparent exuberance, and when set upon the rich plains or deep-soiled prairies, over rolling, hilly or mountainous lands, of any soil, it loads the earth as though it were stacked by hand upon it. I wish it were in my power to describe it. Among all the vegetable productions of the earth, there is nothing more beautiful to look upon than this unequaled grass. When I think of its beauties and its many virtues, I throw down my pen to give it another scrutinizing examination and further consideration before attempting its description. When set thin and unmolested, it puts forth a fine, solid stem; from this stem other branching stems come forth, and then come clusters or spinning roots of fine spears, covered with fine blades, which, in connection with a like offspring of other grand parent stems, make up a wonderful whole of thick, verdant, sweet, and nutritious foliage, so luxuriant and heavy, that, seemingly, the earth is burdened with its weight; or, in other words, having matured and given up its juicy greenness, it seems to lay in woolen warmth or downy deadness, as if to protect its mother earth from the effects of heat and cold, but ready to fatten all healthy animals that may graze upon it. By taking several stems of this grass into the mouth and chewing it well, you will discover that it has the flavor of sheep-sorrel, though nothing like so tart. Its slightly tartish taste is undoubtedly the reason why animals are so fond of it. My description is of new seedings of this grass that have grown to maturity. If grown from old or well-formed sod, it would require a somewhat different description, and should be described in its different stages—I mean its infancy, childhood, youth, and maturity. But it is useless for me to try to do it justice; and I believe that words were never given to man to adequately picture the beauties of nature.

Now let us suppose it possible that, in the older settled states, or still older countries of Europe, where the lands are all fenced into lots, fields, meadows, and pastures, there could be a pasture, inclosing stock, producing more grass than any land ever produced of Timothy, Clover, or any other northern grass, and adjoining this pasture there is another, which, having had no stock upon it during the fall months, has grown a fine crop of grass and cured itself into the best of hay upon the ground. Now in the midst or dead of winter, when the first-mentioned pasture is likely not to afford sufficient grass for this stock, we turn the stock every day, after the dew is off in the morning, on the pasture of self-cured hay, taking it off before the falling of dew in the evening, to prevent tramping and uncleanliness when wet, as well as to prevent gorging and disease. I say suppose it possible that such a course could be pursued, and that this much might be all the extra work required for the wintering of stock in those countries, would it not be a hundred fold preferable and much less expensive than the present indispensable course of hay-cutting and curing, putting up for winter, and feeding out several times a day, from four to six months of the year, besides building barns, stables, yards, racks or mangers, troughs for feeding grain, fixtures for watering, often shoveling through the deep snow to do your work, and having so many apartments for so many different small lots of sheep, cattle or what not, and scores of other conveniences that are required for the wintering or fattening of stock in these northern climates or frosty regions of any part of the world! Think of this, my cold country friends, and try to imagine the virtue and beauties of these Musquete and Bermuda grasses, and this delightful country, western Texas, where they grow so luxuriantly, and where stock live and do well, summer and winter even, upon the rough, wild, and inferior grasses of the country. The Buffalo grass is of short, fine growth, and is not found anywhere near the coast. It is excellent for stock, where it is found in the high regions of the interior. It is very nutritious, and that portion of western Texas producing this grass is excellent for sheep and goats.

It is not upon the buffalo or the Buffalo grass that the writer is inclined to dwell. This animal, with the red man, is fast migrating from the country of Texas, and surrendering the range to domesticated animals; and although there are many of them in northern and northwestern Texas, I believe they will, ere long, be among the things that were, so far as this state is concerned. I judge from the fact that, not many years ago, they were known to range here where now not a buffalo is seen within hundreds of miles. As for the Buffalo grass, it may be useful for all time to come, for aught I know. I am told by those who have traveled over it a good deal, and who have worked mules and horses upon it, that it is the strongest grass in the world, that animals will endure great hardship upon it, without grain, and that it is a good winter grass. I will venture to say, that in those latitudes where snow does not fall, the stock business can be made as easy and profitable upon Buffalo grass as upon any other; at all events, I should not be afraid to risk it.

There has been a great deal said about cultivating northern grasses in Texas. This, I think, would be perfect nonsense. In the first place, there is no northern grass that would be half so good for this country, provided it would do well here, as our Musquete and Bermuda; but the northern grasses, such as Timothy, Clover, Blue-grass, etc., I believe would not do here; and so far as I know, there has been no attempt made to explain the reason why. I think I have myself discovered something to this effect, and that is that no grass can be hardy and durable in Texas but that which has a fine, compact or solid stem; no grass that puts forth a coarse hollow stalk like timothy or clover, is fit for this country. Something like the [illegible] or Bermuda, which is [illegible] which [illegible] this climate [illegible]

The [illegible] many of its [illegible] of timber and [illegible] people of the [illegible] could [illegible] it [illegible] t. This land [illegible] would be considered the best in the world. I am now alluding to lands [illegible] there are thousands of acres [illegible], which [illegible] people that [illegible] of thousands of able to live upon them [illegible]. They are [illegible] Hundreds of thousands of acres of lands in the state of Texas, in the United States of America, away from all dangers of Indians [illegible] the soil of which is inexhaustible, and yet almost valueless, land that if once put in a good state of cultivation [illegible] as would a flock of sheep on being turned out of a fold upon fine grass of [illegible]. Fowls can nearly live upon it, if not quite. The Bermuda grass [illegible] that there is [illegible] any part of it [illegible] grass blades [illegible] of the soil [illegible] beneath [illegible] solid sod of [illegible] and [illegible] or [illegible] as this grass [illegible] Mesquite [illegible] cultivated [illegible] produce [illegible] for the [illegible] of [illegible] per-fect [illegible] Mesquite is something like it [illegible] of the [illegible] of the Bermuda [illegible] by [illegible] good as the Bermuda. [illegible] in the months of December, January, February and March, the [illegible] good [illegible] and [illegible] cattle [illegible] grass [illegible] as good as [illegible] fed [illegible] that they would weigh with northern stall-fed animals of the same age, but they were full fat and their flesh firm and [illegible], yet tender, juicy and [illegible].

The [illegible] Mesquite grass, besides producing a heavy bottom of fine blades, puts up stems that heads something like barley, although [illegible] there nothing like so heavy as good barley; yet when compared with many other [illegible] grass this headed Mesquite might justly be called grain; and if well cultivated on [illegible] prepared ground, I believe it would produce of seed, besides its bottom growth, what would be equal to a pretty fair crop of barley or oats.

It is contended by some that these Mesquite and Bermuda grasses, for fattening cattle, are equal to corn. Whether they are or not, if in the dead of winter they will keep stock fat, they are good enough, particularly the different kinds of Musquete, whic cover hundreds of thousands of acres of unsettled lands in western Texas, upon which every one's cattle are at liberty to roam. Now, you men of money, who are seeking secure and fine investments let me ask you How would you like to own a league of this excel lent land in the valley of the Nueces, which is a pretty rolling land as there is in the world, and already covered with this nutritious grass, which lands wil produce everything, [illegible] and I might say, almost every good thing abundantly, and where stock cattl can be bought at seven dollars per head, brood mare for twelve and fifteen dollars per head, and where beef cattle are now worth from sixteen to eighteen dollars, and will soon bring twenty dollars per head at three and four years old, eighteen [illegible],—and wher half-breed mules at three years of age will readil bring from seventy-five to one hundred dollars—th lands being worth from one half to three dollars p acre.

If the city of gold was situated across some broa ocean five times the width of the vast Atlantic, ho many thousands are there who would sacrifice th little they possess, rake together every dollar the could, and blindly rush to those regions of gold—i nine cases out of ten to be disappointed, and eithe beg their way back or send home to get money t enable them to return, or possibly commit suicide, i despair, for the want of luck or pluck to dig throug what they thought to be a fine [illegible], never dream ing that here in Texas there are openings to whic most gold diggings are no more to be compared th the least star in the firmament is to the glorious su I mean what I say. There are thousands of men wh went in times of excitement to California and Australia, who, had they come to Texas at the time and invested the little money that it took to get them to those countries, would now be rich and independent men, instead of being what they now are—many of them not only poor, but dissipated, gambling vagabonds, or, what is equally bad, spendthrifts of that which, by chance having made so quick and easy, they knew not its value, and casting it adrift, soon found themselves in the rapid current of despair, and too often in the whirlpool of destruction.

Why should not men of the north and European countries come to Texas? Beef cattle are already raised here and driven to the far north, and not only consumed there, but packed up and consumed perhaps by the ships' crews of every nation that may have a vessel afloat; and Texas is but just in her infancy at this business. She will yet astonish the world with her vast productions of different kinds of meat, horses, mules and wool, or anything that is raised upon grass. If a beef can be grown to three or four years of age, as some contend, for two dollars and a half, a good half-breed horse or mule of the same age for five dollars, fine yearling sheep for a bit per head, merino wool at an actual cost of not more than six and a fourth cents per pound, hogs and other animals, fowls, etc., proportionably cheap, why will not more of that great surplus population of other countries come here and produce with their labor, energy, enterprise and capital supplies for those whom they leave behind? If a person owning two farms—one upon which he might live, where from four to six months of the year the earth might be covered with snow, the other twenty miles away, where snow might never fall, the one at home good for the growing of grains, vegetables, etc., and where labor might be cheap and plentiful for the raising and storing up of this product; [illegible] producing the best of grass in abundance the year through, where stock of all kinds could live without any preparation for winter, and where he (the farmer) could raise his stock for one half or fourth of what it would cost him to raise it at home—would he not be likely to send his stock, with a portion of his family, westward, [illegible] to the farm [illegible] it be used for the raising of [illegible] for the raising of grain, etc., since if he [illegible] his grass farm for the raising of grain, this grain would have to be gathered and put under for sale crops just as much as though produced on the home farm, which we will suppose could not be done to advantage for the want of cheap and sufficient labor; and if the grass farm were used for the growing of grain, etc., it would throw the stock back on the home farm, where there would have to be a tedious and laborious storing up of hay, etc., for the wintering of this stock, and six months of the most valuable growth of the grass farm thrown away, and unnecessary labor and expense used in the wintering of the stock, when it could have lived without any preparation for winter, had the grass farm been unmolested and not put to the growing of grain, or had been left to produce its winter growth of grass and constant grazing for the stock. So in regard to Texas, when considered in connection with the older states of the Union and different parts of the world. As mankind are one great family, why should not that portion of this family at home which is yet too large, and where labor is yet too cheap, where there are many who are not needed, where the unfortunate ones of the family have too often to stint their bellies for the want of supplies or means to get them, where most of the soil could be used to advantage for the raising of grains, etc.—I ask why should not these overgrown branches of this great family send off some of their surplus labor, energy, enterprise and capital to this part of the world to produce certain supplies for those whom they leave behind, and take in exchange for them money or an equivalent thereto in such things as they might require from abroad. Yes, since the productions of this part of the earth are so cheaply and easily brought forth with so little labor and capital, where suffering from cold is comparatively unknown, where extremes of heat are less oppressive than in cold northern climates, where there are so many leagues after leagues of cheap, unsettled or unoccupied lands, as good as can be, where is the great productive and fragrant grass of the world and beauty all around, where beggars are unknown and fortune smiles upon nearly all. Yes, I say, since all this is, let men pick up their things and come over here, and raise beef for New Orleans, Mobile, and soon for Cuba, for Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and Boston, for Canada and the Lord only knows where. Come here and raise mules; come here and grow cotton and wool; come here and produce pork and bacon; come here and get rich out of this immense surplus of grass which is now consumed by fire upon the great pasture of western Texas. Here is the place to live; here the glittering lone star, the beacon light to benighted Mexico, will be the great and unequaled producer for the consuming world, where millions of cattle tread the valleys and sheep are to range upon a hundred thousand hills.

MEXICO, ITS DESTINY, ETC.

I will here say that from the beginning it has not been my purpose to write anything like a thorough description of Texas or any portion of it, nor any other country or portion of country. My principal object was only, in a style of my own, to give the reader an idea of the present inviting condition of this part of the world to people of other parts of the world who may have it in contemplation to emigrate to other countries, or who, if possessed of information such as this may very possibly afford them, might be induced to lead the way, and give western Texas a consideration at least, before committing themselves to the chances of other countries.

There is probably nothing concerning these parts at present, that would be anything more interesting to some than is the subject I am about to consider. This is Mexico, her government, people, territory, etc., and I regret that I am not possessed of information such as would enable me to handle the subject more to my own satisfaction at least. I can, however, follow these matters sufficiently for the purposes of this work.

In the first place, Mexico is what may be considered a "kingdom divided against itself," which, according to the sacred oracles, can not stand. Every body knows that all over this unfortunate country there is dissension and civil war. There is no stability in her government, consequently no security of peace or property to her citizens, real or transient. Every successive usurper or successful president, governor, or what not, every division of short-lived power, is there wringing the very hearts of a God-forsaken people, by unjust impositions upon their property, and constant arbitrary calls to arms in quarrels that seem to prove themselves impregnated with nothing but weakness and shame—there being no central power commanding sufficient respect and support to enable it to conquer and maintain a permanent peace.

Who can say what are the causes of this deplorable state of things in Mexico, how long they are to exist, and what will be the result of her inevitable and irretrievable fall? Does her religion, whose votaries and leading profligates are equally important personages in the pit of the cock and bull fight, or in the house of their God, have anything to do with her [illegible] and instability [illegible] and anarchic order? Is the religion of the country a mere mockery, and have the long-faced and ignorant priests of this religion become, in Mexico, so base and ruined at a trade or life, cannot the church deters them from a knowledge of what virtue should be or really is? Is this the cause of the terrible and [illegible] difficulties there, or has this country or government sunk so low and beyond all hope of permanent restoration from the dishonesty of its contending politicians and military men; or is the whole country dishonest? Is it there no credit to a man to be honest? Is it the nature of the climate of Mexico, and the little exertion that is there required to live, that makes her people idle, and has the sin of idleness worked her destruction? Has her mines of gold and silver been her damning curse; or is it the tendency of the Spanish race to go down, and from mixing with and extending co-equal rights to the inferior race of aborigines of the country, is it meeting, in this instance, a speedier fall than is allotted to the [illegible], as well as other Spanish countries? Are these any or collectively the principal causes of existing circumstances in Mexico? Whether they are or not, if Matt. xii, 25, can be applied to her, then, according to the Bible, she or her present government is doomed to become extinct, and it may be her race of people, like the Indian, also. Is Mexico yet to be linked to the country that is characterized by the Yankee? Corruption exists more or less everywhere on the earth, but like combustible matter it will in time ignite, and everywhere burn out. Man seems to be imbued with a spirit of virtuous and intellectual elevation that at present is beyond his comprehension, and changes are the slow and tidal workings that are taking him to his distant luminous height.

The great consolatory truths, says *President Quincy*, written in letters of living light on every page of our history, are these: Human happiness has no perfect security but freedom; freedom none but virtue; virtue none but knowledge; and freedom, nor virtue has any vigor or immortal hope except in the principles of the Christian religion.

Is there freedom in Mexico, where any man's property is liable at any time to be demanded or confiscated by its dictators or lower government officials, or laid waste by continual divisions of lawless power! Is there freedom, where a man knows not when he or his property is safe, and where he is so easily condemned to death or imprisonment upon charges of crime, whether false or true; where he is arraigned by assumed authority and barbarously treated in the most rotten tribunals of justice, upon mere pretences, or for the most trifling misdemeanor! Is there virtue where a majority of men can be bought, and compelled to kill or participate in the killing of their neighbors, and where, so far as the marriage contract is concerned, or vows of connubial love, affection and constancy are regarded, children know not who are their fathers! Is there knowledge where the populace superstitiously allot to their hypocritical priests the power of invoking at their will an earthquake of destruction upon them; and is the Christian religion in Mexico! What kind of religion is that whose church levies and extorts from its ignorant supporters a tax or duty upon their infant children as they are born into the world, and when the father is unable to pay this heavenly admittance into these paradisean surroundings, the child is confiscated, and eventually sold by this one and only true church into Christian bondage, or kept in the mesh as most abject slave of this sweet institution, in default of payment for the right of birth or enrollment. What kind of religion is that whose priests are vile debauchers? What kind of a shepherd-dog is that which stalks into the fold of his own flock, and with wolfish play throttles and sucks the life-blood of its pretty and innocent lambs? What kind of an angel was that beautiful little girl of twelve whom I saw decked with golden wings and sparkling diamonds, and in robes of satin richness, brilliantly bespangled, making her way through the streets, followed by those who kissed the earth whereon she walked, and she marching to the frightful ding-dong of bells, on her way to that church or cathedral, to stand as a living representative of celestial purity! And what kind of gods were they who were there to behold with lustful delight that purity and innocence, and with the unholy thought of some day robbing, with religious sanction, this beautiful creature of her most sacred boon! And, again, what kind of a god was he whom I saw in the circus of the cock fight, dictating to his whelps, and deciding the most trifling questions of dispute in regard to the games; who himself staked and won six hundred dollars on a favorite cock, after bribing the gaff-setter, and whom I saw, a day or two after, sprinkling most holy water upon the heads of those who paid him for the pardon of their sins, and this, too, in the presence of the image of Christ and the Virgin Mary! Can it be that anything bearing the name of religion is good and useful, and should the religion of a people, however degrading, be unmolested! "He is a bad citizen," said Napoleon, "who undermines the religious faith of his country. All may not perhaps be substantially good; but certain it is, that all come in aid of the government power, and are the essential basis of morality." Would he be a bad citizen who would undermine and scatter to the four winds the false faith of Mexico? One would suppose that the religious faith of this country might not be so good, but that it might come in aid of just such powers of government as there exist, and that it might be the basis of just such morality as characterizes her people.

Just how long Mexico will remain as she is, or how long it will be before she is regulated and protected externally as well as internally by the United States, would be difficult for any one to say. But from the appearance of things, the time is but a little way off when something must be done in the way of consummating her connection in some way with this government, but how she will be connected with or what her position will be at first under the United States, I suppose no one as yet pretends to know. But when the stars and stripes shall wave over her, in whatever spirit the occasion then may require, then Mr. Copperface will have to put up his knife and be still. He may jog a little at first, as does a watch after having long kept in irregular time, but when the work of regulation and protection (such as the United States would send there or extend over her) shall have commenced in good earnest, then there would be safety and security to the traveler and American resident in Mexico. Then, my countrymen, will be the time for somebody to make money as fast as by digging for gold and silver in the richest of unfailing, surely *productive* mines; and who are to be the lucky fellows!

Will it be those who are living in western Texas, New Mexico, and all along the frontier? or those who are living far away from the scene of action? Who are to get the best berths? who the loaves and fishes? who the rich claims in the mines of Mexico—those world-renowned mines that the indolent people of the country have left for ages half dormant and unworked, controlled as they have been by a fast sinking, mongrel government? Said William Wirt, in his remarks upon Aaron Burr: "To youthful ardor he presents danger and glory; to ambition, rank and titles and honors; to avarice, the mines of Mexico."

You stupid fellows, away yonder, don't you see the bird fluttering?—if it flies, whither will it go? Are you so cowardly, having eyes, see not, and ears, hear not? Here are mines that are certain to yield, and will pay for working; here is a country full of gold and silver, full of an inferior race of people, who are to be furnished by somebody's merchants, and who are able and will have to work for some enlightened people,—the Lord only knows who; full of horses, mules, sheep, goats, cattle, etc., the lands of which are not only mostly rich and fine for the culture of various kinds of grains, vegetables, and fruits, "but," says a writer in De Bow's Review, "afford timbers for useful dyes, prized gums of commerce, and medicinal extracts. Besides gold and silver, there is scarcely a known metal which is not found in her mines." Her mineral wealth must be inexhaustible. The reader can form some idea of what the country might have been, in the possession of a different people and under a different government, when he considers the amount of her church-property, which "is between two hundred and fifty and three hundred millions of dollars; and that at the city of Mexico the clergy own more than half the buildings, and the whole are valued at eighty millions of dollars; and the income of the church is also annually eighty millions; the annual yield of her mines, twenty-four millions of dollars; her agricultural wealth, two hundred and sixty millions of dollars; the value of her domestic manufactures, ninety millions of dollars annually; her manufactories, in number, are forty-six cotton and eighty woolen, located in the central states of the so-called Republic; and about forty thousand pounds of silk is made annually at the different factories."

Can any one doubt that, if citizens of the United States could have known years back, that they could be perfectly safe and could feel secure in person and property in Mexico, they would now be there in thousands, making money in some way or another! What great advantages would have arisen had such a state of things existed for the last half century or more! Why the Mexican people would have become, ere this, somewhat Americanized, and more or less fitted for citizens of the United States. They would have become, in a measure, reconciled and to a great extent favorable to our institutions; as an evidence of which, Texas has had a very favorable influence upon the bordering states of Mexico. But as yet nearly all remains to be done. To take her altogether into the United States, as she is, to exercise the rights of a separate state or states, would be a dangerous experiment, and to which the people of the Union would probably not submit to. To take her as we have been doing, by piecemeal or parts, would no doubt be much the safest way for the United States; at least in this way Mexico would be regulated and civilized by degrees; and by the time she should all be consumed or gradually taken up by our government, she might be pretty safely harnessed to pulling in our traces. But she has become so distressing to herself and troublessings to other countries, that this mode of disposing of her is out of the question. She is being urged upon the United States, and if we would shape her destiny and keep her out of the hands of some other power, we must accept her in some way, and satisfy other governments in regard to her future course, or guarantee them against further injustice from her. Then, since she is to be ours in some shape, and eventually [illegible] of the Union, why should not the eyes of all good men be turned upon her, and every available means used to meet and counteract the withering effects of her superstition, wickedness, and ignorance, and fit her as much and as soon as possible for her coming glory?

And how is this to be done? Why simply to turn a tide of northern emigration thither, and European emigrating with it as much as possible. The western territory of the Union is already blessed with intelligence, and is safe, and would do for a while if not opened so rapidly. The Canadas and all north of us are doing well enough for the present, at least,—for British America is free and happy. There is no danger north, east, nor west, [illegible] in the black gulf of half civilized superstition and ignorance to meet and overcome in those quarters, so walled in treasures, controlled by hypocrites with pretended rights and powers from on high, who can call to their support such hordes of semi-savage dupes. The danger is this way: this very Mexico, unless wisely managed, may yet [illegible] the great [illegible] of human rights. But what is to be done? The moral, social, industrial, educational, political, pecuniary, and religious wealth of the United States is immense, and could pay out largely to save and elevate immoral, idle, ignorant, impotent, bankrupt, and irreligious Mexico. But the question arises, how are we to bring

this healing and regenerating of things to bear upon
her, preparatory to her coming into the Union, o
without first taking her into the Union and subjecting
ourselves to the perils of overthrow before she is pu
to rights and rendered harmless? My answer is, tha
we should take her at first as a government subject to
the United States, with an express and unqualified pro
vision that no state should ever be formed out of he
territory and admitted into the Union, until it should
contain a foreign white population of a certain num
ber,—or purely white foreign population from the
United States and other countries, with their increase
(aside from its original population and its increase)
that should number, perhaps, as many as a territor
now requires for its admission into the Union. Wi
such and other precautions, I, as an American an
citizen of the United States, should not be afraid t
extend our power and protection over a sinking an
deluded Mexico. It may be that the constitution i
in the way of such a measure; but whatever become
of Mexico,—whether she becomes English, Frenc
Spanish, American, or retains her independenc
the engines of civilization should be set at wor
in this direction; and when the time or opportuni
presents itself, strong settlements of the Anglo-Amer
ican race should be made in her territory among he
people.

As western Texas is the center of my theme, I mu
not endeavor to sweep too broad a field, and leave th
whole but indifferently drawn. The setting up and im
provement of western Texas is itself a stepping-sto
at one of the doors of Mexican education. Tex
was herself once a broad wilderness of herds, and ha
it not been for the colonization enterprise of the Au
tins, and the superior qualifications and untiring e
ertions of the younger Austin, (details of which, ca

be seen in the Texas Almanac), she might now be the victim of Mexican perfidy, and the theater of her blasting contentions. This is quite plain to Mexico and to Mexicans, many of whom are living in Texas, and constantly going from one country to the other. If, then, the force of example and bordering strength is effective and important, why not add as much as possible to the already wide-spread information in regard to this beautiful country? Show the profits of business, and the inviting condition of things in general in western Texas, and let the interests of men prompt them to its shores to participate in its many advantages.

While yet in sight of this Mexican question, there is one thing to which I would call the attention of all good and intelligent Americans. Missionaries are sent abroad over the earth to convert the heathen and ameliorate the condition of mankind. Is it not to our government that Americans owe their great advantages and capacities for doing so much good abroad? Is not our government the rock upon which stands the great light now shining forth to the world? To be sure, our moral and educational institutions impart to this government its vigor and the healthy blood that courses in its veins, and are its only hope in the future; and one would suppose that it might be adequate to the purpose. But suppose seven or eight millions of lost people—lost to everything or wanting everything that could create or sustain such a government as ours—were to become altogether, with their country, an extreme one side section, a part of our confederacy; might not this possibly destroy our missionary strength, and dim this our brilliant and promising light of the world, by lessening the vigor and purity of our government, unless our moral and educational strength should be proportionally increased

and applied in a way to rapidly impart this whole-
some blood of our nation's system into the veins of
this vast but shattered additional limb of the govern-
ment? If so, had not missionaries and those Ameri-
cans who feel an interest in the enlightenment and
saving of the world, better first see that the most at-
tractive light, and the one by which they get thei
strength, and by which their feet are guided, and t
which mankind seem to turn with a gazing hope, i
replenished and does not lose its lustrous beaconing
and secure to it, if possible, the means of shedding
abroad for all time to come, before turning aside t
strike their sparks in other lands, however dark and
heathenish they may be?

When we consider the evils of party spirit, univer
sal suffrage, civil dissension, and many others with
which our government has already to contend, the
idea of adding thereto by taking in a body, unde
our shelter, with the greatest precaution even, th
millions of superstitious and ignorant beings of Mex
ico, to be led, without principle, in elections an
government matters, by their false gods, and they
too (their leaders) to be led by those who might stoo
the lowest or bid the highest, well may we paus
and consider—well might the freemen tremble. Bu
to make the thing safe, we must face the music i
good time. If the thing is inevitable, "let it come,"
and let those shepherds, whose devotion is the con
version of sinners and salvation of souls, gather u
strong flocks of intelligence and determination, an
with a mild and Christian spirit make as soon as po
sible, powerful settlements among the half heathe
of our own continent. Let some one follow in th
footsteps of the immortal Austins, and colonize anothe
Texas within the limits of Mexico. I do not mea
that I would array sect against sect, for war an

contention of any kind is repugnant to my feelings. I simply mean that I would bring the intelligent and true Christian in friendly contact with the deluded and ignorant; I would bring industry, enterprise and everything that is great and good in contact with idleness, degeneracy and everything that is detestable and wicked. In short, I would gentle and improve the savage and degenerate blood of Mexico by establishing colonies or strong settlements of the Anglo-American race among her people, in every advantageous quarter that should offer money-making inducements, or honest paying labor and available operations. Such as tilling the soil, digging for gold and silver, lead and minerals of any or all kinds; merchandising, raising horses and mules, growing wool, manufacturing, mechanism, school teaching, medical practice, etc. And how, I ask, could good and Christian men better serve the dearest of causes than lead the way in such enterprises, for the purpose of opening new channels and widening the fields of true Christianity and human happiness? And lastly, but by no means leastly, for the purpose of forging new chains with which to bind the north and the south forever together; and render, if possible, this an imperishable Union.

To be understood I must go a little further on before returning to my dear western Texas. I would not disguise the fact that I would have northern people go to Mexico, and so would I like to see southern people go there. This mingling and mixing up of the people of the different sections of our great country will, no doubt, prove a most excellent thing. But the advantages of populating Mexico with northern people particularly would be immeasurably great. Settling down in the south seems to create in the northern man a higher estimation of the Union, a renewed love

of the Union, a deeper, stronger Union feeling an
determination to stick to the Union. It gives a
attraction to the center. Northern people in th
south, so far as I know, do not meddle with or distur
its institutions—I believe they generally becom
southerners, according to a correct definition of th
term, so far as it should relate to sectionalism in the
United States. But they have a desire to see the di
ficulties of the country peaceably settled, for the ide
of being politically separated from the land of thei
birth, if I am correct, is perfectly distressing to them
therefore, here in Texas or Mexico, if it belonged t
the United States, the northern man would impre
upon the minds of his children that there is a grea
North for which he has a peculiar regard—a gre
and powerful people in the north, whose intelligenc
energy and advancement are unsurpassed, and wi
whom we should strive to cultivate the best politic
feeling and relations; for, in connection with them
we are the greatest, the most powerful and happy pe
ple in the world; but separated from them, wherev
the line might be drawn, we would be comparativ
weak, and we know not what might be our destin
as a people—separated, we could not look forwa
with that certainty of a glorious future for o
country.

Such and like sentiments instilled into the min
of their children, could not fail to impress them wi
a deep sense of the importance of the Union, a
create in them a true attachment to it, and they wou
cling to the land of their fathers and strive in suppo
of that which should promise the most—the undivid
Union—which would counteract, to a great exte
the feelings imbibed by those who are raised to h
the Union on account of sectional agitation. It m
be urged against this position that California wou

willingly cut loose from the Union, but I don't believe that she could be induced to do so, even though the mountains should ever divide us and no railroad should ever connect us. But, with a connecting railroad, nothing short of a Rocky Mountain earthquake that should throw us all into the seas, would ever separate the Pacific from the Atlantic States; and should such a thing occur the separation of California from the Union, and the South from the North or the Union, are by no means analogous cases.

Whoever goes to Mexico should strive to elevate the character of the Mexican people, that they may reach the day, as soon as possible, when they will not be liable to dangerous corruption in elections and governmental matters—what an immense work of ages, and how deserving the particular and even the undivided attention of good and wise men!

Before returning more closely to the idea suggested upon the title page, I will say that I do not pretend that the introduction of a different religion into Mexico, could by itself work out the desired effect and save the country. But it is industry, commerce, internal improvements, mechanical, educational and useful operations of a thousand kinds, in connection with good morals and truly religious operations that would work the desired change. For a Protestant minister to go to Mexico alone and divulge his doctrines would, I suppose, be equivalent to throwing himself away. A physician, of Protestant faith, by himself in Mexico, if he were so disposed, could be a stronger champion in a religious way than could a Protestant minister, provided he should perform miraculous cures or ingenious humbugs; Mexicans would, of course, then consider him inspired, and were he equally accomplished in religious matters he could show to them the wonderful works of Protest-

antism. I mention this merely to show the character
of the people, not to encourage such low work. If a
man to accomplish good and drive out corruption
must resort to the scurvy pretense of Catholicism, as
it exists in Mexico, as has a certain distinguished
character, there might be danger of his becoming
corrupted also, or it might not be an unnatural con-
clusion to suppose him possessed of but little good to
impart to others. For political ends such a course fre-
quently works admirably.

Settlements in Mexico by people from the states
of a reasonable religious faith, should they be succes
ful in their business operations and rapidly improv
the country that they might possess, would naturally
suggest to the mind of the Mexican, that a better re
ligious faith than his might be requisite to prosperit
and advancement with him or his countrymen.
mean to be understood that to show the Mexican th
effects of a good religion, is better than to undertak
to force a different religion from that of his own upo
him; for when urged, in a religious way, he woul
hug all the closer the one he now professes, though
might serve him ten times as much as it does.

To make successful settlements in Mexico the direc
tion of the work in its beginning and for some tim
aside from religious matters, should be entrusted
the right kind of men who are already acquaint
with the language, the people and the ways of th
country. The simplest, unpretending, yet wide-awak
means will accomplish the greatest good in this bu
ness. To get together a company of outcasts, who
only idea is gain either by fair or foul means, withou
a shadow of a creditable aim in life, without a clai
to respectability, and lost even to self-respect, a
make a great cry and empty show and pretension
without work, good regulation and behavior, is

nonsense. No enterprise ever so promising could amount to anything in the hands of such men. If a settlement for mining purposes is to be undertaken in Mexico or any of these half-savage frontier territories, the managers of the enterprise should know what they are about—they should not only be men of great determination and skilled in the business, but they should know beforehand that they are to be very sure of successful digging in some well-known locality, where they are equally certain in regard to the durability of water around these diggings, or that their preparations during a dry season are where they will be followed by a sufficiently wet one for their purposes. They should know about the means of getting their supplies, and what would be their probable cost up to the time that they could probably realize from their operations, and prepare for the same, otherwise they would be liable to discouraging disasters that might break up the company and possibly the enterprise altogether.

The men who direct such enterprises in Mexico, or upon the frontier, should encourage the emigration of stock growers and farmers to settle around them if possible. There are sections in the vicinity of gold and silver regions in the frontier territories that are well adapted to the raising of sheep and goats in particular.

New mining companies should determine from the start to have no cut-throat, gambling, dissipated, disturbing wretches among them; and I believe every such company, that is sometimes from necessity shut out from society and away from the gentle influence of woman, would be much more successful if they would not only interest moral and Christian men in their enterprise, but a minister of the Gospel, who should hold forth in a religious way occasionally, and use his influence to keep up as good a state of morals as possible. Good industrious men who are willing to work for a fortune, if rightly organized in companies and directed by the right kind of experienced managers, could certainly do remarkably well at mining and stock raising in various quarters along the frontier of Mexico; and the day is most certainly not far away when Mexico itself will be the place for many an American to fill his pockets in a thousand different ways.

I am credibly informed that at this time good brood mares can be bought in the interior of Mexico at five dollars per head, but men who have recently been there for the purpose of bringing out horses, have returned without them, considering it unsafe to purchase even at these low rates; for, as they say, could we have got them for nothing there was no certainty of our getting them out of the country at this time, and there would have been a risk of losing our lives with our horses had we bought and started with a drove. The troubles of the country endanger a person's life as well as property, and he knows not on whom to depend; but, when it is safe to go there again, which time is not far off, then, my boys, whom it may concern, think of buying good brood mares for five dollars per head, and horses, mules and sheep in proportion. Think of this country (western Texas), where, if you please, you can bring them and so profitably raise mules, horses, produce mutton, wool, etc. Of course, in times past, there has been more safety in going to Mexico, and thousands of men have been there and made their piles at buying stock for a mere nothing; and, when there is safety in going there again for this purpose, there will be a plenty of men at the business, some of whom are now standing ready and will pitch in as soon as a good time offers. Some will buy for the purpose of driving to Texas and further south to dispose of at wonderful profits; but many will buy for the purpose of raising stock in Texas, and I know of some and am credibly informed that there are plenty of such who are anxiously waiting the day when a large portion of Mexico, at least, will be [illegible], [illegible] they [illegible] with the protection of our government in some way, and purchase and peaceably occupy the most beautiful spots in Mexico that they ever heard of for cultivating lands and stock ranges of cattle [illegible], [illegible] a country and [illegible] as there is anywhere upon the face of the earth. That will be a glorious day for this part of the world! Many a Yankee will find his way into Mexico, and buy out the indolent and ignorant Copperskins for one-fourth the value of the stock and lands, or I might say for [illegible] [illegible] one-fourth the value to good working sensible Yankees; but, perhaps, the full value to the Mexicans. Yes, that will be a glorious day when the Yankee boys shall plant an influence in fallen Mexico that will live and grow into such [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with no other people.

The people of Mexico are a mixture of Indian, Negroes and Spanish, and not a few full-blooded Indians and Negroes [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] in the affairs of her government, religion, etc. Should not this be a caution to abolitionists? The people of poor benighted Mexico are [illegible] in their connection with the red and black man, and the [illegible] Indian like [illegible] If Mexico, [illegible] her connection with the wild man and other [illegible], [illegible], why not the Yankee boys occupy her lands and country, whose resources and importance she has been unable to develop? I would rather understand that the present inhabitants or population of Mexico should

11

be murdered or driven out of their country; but I would be understood that the present [illegible] race of Mexican people are doomed to become extinct, and their country at some future day is to be characterized by a different people, although fragments of its present race may remain there for many centuries to come, but will all eventually be absorbed by another race, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and the country take an entirely different character; and why should must this character be given by the Yankees? Why not let this country or this part of North America be characterized as is that which is United States? Cross the ocean and visit any distant part of the world and go ashore, and when the stars and stripes are seen waving out upon the pennant of your ship, if every stranger in your presence, when speaking of that ship don't call her a Yankee, "I'll pay the drinks." No matter from what part of the United States she hails or where she's bound, whether California, Norfolk or Portland, if she bears the flag of stars and stripes, when the skipper of any vessel of any nation bends his glass upon her, the chances are his words will be, "She's a Yankee."

So abroad, my friends, born and raised wherever you may have been in these United States, and you'll be called or considered a Yankee. And why should not the people of the United States be termed Yankees? Is that term only an empty sound? Does the word Yankee [illegible] [illegible] but the idea of Indian jargon or wooden nutmegs and the like? Who settled the Western states, and how have those states prospered? What are their institutions of learning and what have they built in many years? What their common school system? Who the statesmen and learned men they have produced? and what the talent, the capital and kind of men they have sent abroad and settled all over the United States? What their manufacturing and mechanical skill and productions? What their inventive genius? What the part they act in the commercial world, and what their religious influence? Whereof of what are the commercial cities of the United States composed? Who built the canvas city upon America's coast? Who built the puffing city upon the inland waters of the United States? Trace, if you please, the great men and the great works of the whole United States to their origin and see what the Yankee states have done—see if they have been behind. Why the very father of the country, upon my title page, first saw the light in old Connecticut.

One would suppose that the writer might himself be a Yankee, but he is not, nor is he so bigoted as to suppose that there is no people or doings of consequence in the United States but the Yankees and their doings. He is, however, somewhat acquainted with the Yankee character, and although a little partial to them, he would like to see coming to western Texas with them people from all the states and all parts of the civilized world. The mines and wealth of Mexico, her vast extent of rich mesquite and cultivating lands, and her millions of stock are near to our borders, and will be easy of access to the western Texian, and the man who is on hand in time will be the lucky fellow. So come from everywhere; this mixing and crossing of the white civilized races of mankind is, no doubt, developing great advantages in the Yankee nation, but with the Indian and negro a dangerous experiment if Mexico is an example. Yet it might not be so dangerous for the descendants of Great Britain and their adopted kin, or mixed offspring of the United States to live and intermingle with the inhabitants of Mexico, since the Anglo-

American's destiny seems to be ever upward and on
ward. Yes, it matters not what the obstacles in th
way, what the difficulties to overcome, what seemin
impossibilities to do away and heights of trouble to sur
mount, wherever you may find him he is ever movin
steadily but surely on and upward—and sunshine o
tempest he is still the same, immovable in his lof
course, and it seems that his is to be the universa
language of the earth [illegible] world at last! Th
English tongue seems not to know the word fail, i
carries with it universal success.

LANDS, VEGETABLES, FRUITS, WINES, TIMBERS, FLOC
FENCING, MIRAGES, GRAINS, DWELLINGS, AND BUILD-
ING MATERIAL; CHURCHES, CLIMATE, AND HEALTH;
YELLOW FEVER, NORTHERS, SEA BREEZE, ETC.

Although I have talked of most of these matters i
connection with stock-raising and other subjects, y
I have considered them with only here and there
word, and will therefore take them up separately, wit
a few remarks.

There are millions of acres along the coast of wes
ern Texas, and some distance back from the gulf o
bay shores, that are known as "hog-wallow lands.
Why they are called by this uncouth name I do no
know, unless it is from the peculiar unevenness o
their surface, which some one may have suppose
to look like the work of hogs. This unevenness re
sembles, in appearance, land in the north or timbere
countries, which are sometimes left, after choppin
them off, for the stumps to rot out and take to gras
with their natural, uneven surface, which is ofte
very knolly, or, in other words, a surface of little hi
locks, all covered with grass. The soil of these hog
wallow lands is generally black, and when moist, of
sticky nature. Its depth is from two to six fee

underlaid with a kind of clay. A person might travel a lifetime over these lands and never see a stone of any kind. It is heavy, at first, to break up, but after being well turned over to the depth of three or four inches, the grass and roots of all kinds in it readily die out, after which one or two good plowings make it pleasant land to work, if worked at the right time. It should never be tramped by stock, of any kind, when cultivated. It is very productive, and it is said will never wear out or become less productive from use. These lands are disagreeable to work when wet, but if, after a crop of corn or anything else is taken from them, they are soon well turned over, in a dry time, they require no further preparation for the next year's crop; and they are generally very pleasant to plow up directly after taking off a crop, before the soil gets too much settled or too closely packed together. I have known men fail to make a crop by putting off the plowing of their hog-wallow field until late, when it would break up in lumps, and having no rain in time to pulverize and settle the soil together, the seed could not take root for want of moisture. There is an unusual amount of lime in this soil, and when plowed, in a dry time, it turns up more or less in lumps, and becomes dryer, and not until a soaking rain will it settle and prepare itself for a crop. Water slackens it nicely together as it does lumps of lime. With the right kind of management, a person is very sure of a crop upon these lands. For, although when stirred up, it admits the air and loses its moisture, when pulverized and settled with a soaking rain, it excludes the air and retains its moisture better, perhaps, than almost any other soil. The farmer who is ready for the spring season, is almost sure of a crop upon these or almost any other lands in western Texas. Corn can be planted as early as January, and as late as April, for a summer crop, which gives ample time for replanting, should the first planting fail from any cause. In fact, men have been known here to raise two crops of corn upon the same land in one season. The hog-wallows, generally speaking, are among the cheapest lands in the state. This is owing, to a great extent, to their being heavy to work, and their want of timber; but, as I have said, one great reason of their being so cheap, is that men can pasture their tens of thousands of cattle upon them for nothing, and this is the case with much of the land throughout the state,—the principal owners possessing each so much that they are unable to fence it, and many of them having no stock to inclose, would have no use for their lands were they able and disposed to fence them, as, if fenced, they could only be available to them as pasturage; and furthermore, it would not add enough to their value and quicken their sale sufficiently to pay the land-holder for fencing, unless a similar course should be generally adopted throughout the state, which would, under the present state of things, be an impossibility. Could land holders prevent the stock of the country from running upon their lands without fencing it up, they might sell much more than they do, and at paying rates. But there is no remedy, and consequently the bulk of the range of western Texas is to be open to the world, as now common, for many years to come.

Although the lands along the rivers and principal water-courses in western Texas will be generally taken up and occupied at no very distant period, the great body of prairie-range, out from and between these water-courses, will be open perhaps for ages to come; and to this, as much as to almost any other one thing contained in these pages, would the writer call the particular attention of the reader. These lands, out from the streams and timber, in the center of our broad prairies, many of which are first-rate, can generally be had at a much lower figure than can those bordering on the streams and having more or less timber upon them; though, the Lord knows that well-watered and good timbered lands are for sale here without end, and cheap enough as yet. But if I were this day a newcomer in western Texas, and here for the purpose of raising cattle, horses, mules, and the like, knowing what I do about these open prairies, I would by no means give up my undertaking should I find every rod of the land having water and timber upon it taken up or occupied. I would, in this case, go into the center of these prairies without water or timber, either upon hog-wallow or rolling up-lands, and establish a ranche. If in the hog-wallow prairie, my ranche should be upon the highest, sandy piece of ground I could find,—a plenty of which sandy places, a little above the common level, are always to be found. Here I would have one advantage, at least, over my neighbors upon the water-courses, and that would be a fresh start of grass in the greatest abundance, which could not be as abundant where cattle had been grazing for years along the streams of water. I would go to work and supply my cheap place with its deficiencies—water, shade, and wood—and then I would bring my cattle or stock to it, which of course would necessarily be Texas stock at the beginning. I would supply my want of water for stock purposes with ponds, made of natural basins, to hold water as long as possible, and with wells, whose depth, in hog-wallow lands, need be only from fifteen to thirty feet. For the use of the house I would have cistern water, the best in the world. To supply my want of shade, I would inclose a small piece and plant China trees, the rapid growth

of which would not only soon supply an abundance o
shade, but plenty of fire-wood and posts for fencing
which latter would be equal to the best of cedar; and
as I should work all the time with the satisfaction o
knowing that my lands, which cost me a mere trifl
at the start, could not be beat for the growing of th
better grasses, should I ever see fit or have occasio
to cultivate them; that they could not be beat for th
growing of sugar-cane; as good as any in the worl
for the culture of the grape; second to none for differ
ent kinds of fruits, such as peaches, figs, pomegrana
ates, etc., second to none for nearly every garden
vegetable that grows; good as need be for corn, th
great feeding staple of the country. I say, as I shoul
work all the time with the satisfaction of knowing al
this, and that the breeze from every quarter woul
ever generously cool and relieve my healthy home
and that railroads would surely some day add much
to the value of my property and to the cheerfulness
and happiness of society and the country around me
and that people would, after a while, wonder that they
had not seen and appreciated the value of these open
prairies, I could work with good cheer and always be
pleased with my location, and never envy my neigh-
bors upon the water-courses, whose lands may have
been, from the first, supplied with timber.

These remarks I design as a hint in regard to the
future of these broad hog-wallow prairies, some of
which, in places, are twenty and thirty miles from
river to river, with but little timber or water-course
of any account to be seen. There is, now and then,
a scattering cluster of trees to be seen, when crossing
almost any of these open prairies, and plentiful ponds
of good stock-water, unless it is in a dry season.

Considering the cheapness and virtue of much of
the land in these prairies, the great abundance of grass

around many fine localities that could be selected, they are deserving the attention of stock-growers who would secure a cheap home and an extensive range. Such lands can be had for a half dollar per acre, in considerable quantities, which sooner or later are sure to be very valuable. But at present, as I remarked, there is no end to the fine land for sale in western Texas, that is well watered and timbered, and upon durable streams. Should I select a rancho or permanent home for the stock-business in an open, rolling country, deficient in wood and water, I should pursue pretty much the same course as in the open hog-wallow prairies.

When I talk of these open, central points in the broad prairies of western Texas as places of residence, I am looking some ways into the future. But it is a subject that is every day gaining importance, and attracting attention in this country, particularly the purity of the air and the healthfulness of these dry localities. Although we can, in certain places and directions, travel twenty or thirty miles, in open prairies, from one durable river to another, without seeing much of any timber or water, a person can not, as a general thing, travel these prairies, in any direction, that distance, or half that distance, without crossing rivers, creeks, lakes, and bayous, the banks of which are more or less heavily timbered; some enough only to furnish fire-wood and partial conveniences to those who may settle upon them; others affording the greatest abundance for fencing and all conveniences of the kind to the settler, except a good quality of lumber; a plenty of Florida pine, however, and sometimes northern pine and spruce is to be found in our bay-towns suitable for building purposes.

The sweet potato is the most natural for the climate and soil of western Texas, although Irish potatoes grow well, yet they do not seem to keep from on planting to another, which is a great objection to them here. But the sweet potato, which I believe is relished by all, after eating them a while, produces abundantly, and there is no difficulty in storing them in a way to keep. Irish potatoes are raised a good dea in the spring, and some [illegible] potatoes come ou in August, sooner or later. With a little pains th Texans can have fresh Irish potatoes the year through and this pains is only to raise a spring and fall crop and, if it is necessary, to lay them by or store them awhile for planting purposes, they need only to b carefully spread in a dry loft, or packed in perfectl dry sand. I believe they are sometimes left in the ground from one planting to another, when two crop a year are raised.

Nearly all the garden vegetables of the north grow finely here. Spring and fall gardens are always made, and many persons contend that the fall is the best season for gardening. Any time in the winter unless it is an unusual one, a person can go into on well-managed gardens and take from the ground, just as they grow, beautiful vegetables of almost any kind. Finer melons never grew than can be raised in any part of western Texas, and two crops a year at that also, pumpkins, or any thing of the kind, produce finely.

The most natural fruits for this country are peaches figs, grapes, plums, pomegranates, strawberries, raspberries, tomatoes, etc. Apples, pears, quinces, currants, and the like, are produced in the interior, upon the hilly and mountainous portions of western Texas Oranges, dates, bananas, etc., are raised, but not generally, and with what success I am unable to say The following are some of the wild fruits that ar common in parts of western Texas: wild plum, wil grapes, haws, persimmons, mulberry, dewberry, blackberry, etc. Nearly all the bottom forests and much of the upland timbers of the country are more or less burdened with wild grapevines, which are loaded with grapes, and they are the most thrifty and juicy grape that ever grew. Europeans are here manufacturing wine and brandy from the grapes of these broad vineyards—not of forbidden fruit, but fruit to which the whole world is welcome. These grapes are too tart for pleasant eating, though some people take them down with a wonderful relish, as though they were half sugar. When fully ripe the black, luscious looking fellows are very tempting. They are excellent for jelly, jam, and preserves, but require a little more sugar than the cultivated grape,—I should suppose about the amount that is required for currants. Any amount of vinegar, of the best quality, can be cheaply and easily made from this immense forest production. I have drank excellent wine from this abundant fruit. The cultivated grape, of any kind, can be and is, to a certain extent, successfully engrafted into the wild vine. The fruit of the wild vine is called mustang. To make up the one hundredth part of this spontaneous production of western Texas into wines, etc., would give employment to hundreds of people; and when the labor and expense, attending the establishing and cultivation of vineyards, is taken into consideration, one would suppose that the making up of these free grapes into wines, brandies, and the different relishes, for which they are good, might be made a profitable and extensive business.

When at Cape Town, Africa, the writer saw the free use of wine, which was largely produced, but was not comparable, in quality, to an article made here in western Texas from the wild or mustang grape. Of course I do not allude to the Constantia wine of Cape

Good Hope, but to a common article called Cape Town wine. Is it not reasonable to suppose that a country producing the wild grape so vigorously and abundantly, would be surpassing fine for the cultivation of the choice kinds? The truth is, this heavy, black, hog-wallow land is as good as the best in the world for the raising of grapes, thousands of acres of which, all around where I am now writing, are to be had for the small sum of from fifty cents to two dollars per acre.

The haw, such as is found in western Texas, is delicious eating. I have eaten haws from trees in this country that I would prefer to the raisin. I have often wondered what they would amount to if cultivated. I have found them in the winter, in thickets of brush, plump and sweet—not so rich as the raisin, but better by far for anything like sumptuous eating. They hang on the trees nearly all winter, and ripen by degrees. The frost sweetens them, unless, after freezing, they are too much exposed to the sun and wind—and I believe too much exposure to frost injures them. The best that I have found were protected in thickets of brush from the effects of the frost, and from the sun and wind, which, after freezing, dries them up and makes them tasteless. From the fact that very thrifty trees grow the choicest fruit, I am inclined to think that the fruit would be much better if the tree was cultivated. The color of the haw that I allude to, is blue, but I believe it is generally called the black haw.

The dewberry is very much like the blackberry of the north. The vine, however, is different, being low and scrubby. There is generally a plenty of this fruit almost anywhere in western Texas. It ripens in the spring, and lasts but a short time.

The mulberry affords beautiful fruit, in abundance, either wild or cultivated. There are several kinds found in our forests.

The river bottoms or valley lands of western Texas are generally of a deep, dark soil, and are very productive. They are occupied extensively by cotton and sugar planters. The forest growth of these bottoms is live oak, pecan, elm, prickly-ash, hackberry, mulberry, white-oak, pin-oak, wild peach, etc., etc. Of these the live oak, wild peach, and others, are ever green. The wild peach, mulberry, magnolia, China, etc., are fancy trees, and are growing about many of our dwellings, ornamenting and shading our door-yards. Our most lasting forest timbers are live oak and mulberry. Timbers for mill-wright, wheel-wright, and other mechanical purposes, are plentiful here.

The crop of the pecan-tree puts many an easy and honest dollar into the pockets of many Texans. The annual export of pecans from western Texas is very large. Early in the fall hundreds and thousands of Texans resort to the river-bottoms and timbers to gather pecans.

As for flowers, this, of all others, is nature's favored spot. From the remotest mountain-top to the sea-shore some gardens are richly robed with all the mingled colors and beauties of the rainbow, and so pleasant to the smell and refreshing to the eye that words fail to convey an adequate idea of their loveliness. After leaving the black hog-wallow lands, which are mostly covered with the sedge grass, we generally find a good deal of dark sandy soil and a rolling country, and besides the timbers upon the rivers and creeks there are immense forests of open timber or timbered prairies, well supplied with the sedge grass and watered with beautiful streams. The principal timber of these forest prairies are the post oak and black jack, interspersed with a variety of other kinds.

Here and there among these post oak lands are rich valleys, particularly along the rivers and creeks. There is now and then a piece of hog-wallow, but long stretches of entirely post oak or timbered prairie lands, of a sandy soil are found, which are not so rich and productive as the hog-wallow or bottom lands—but let the reader bear in mind that these are all good grazing lands, and that when it is required they will all produce the mesquite and Bermuda grasses most plentifully. Nothing will grow more luxuriantly and produce more abundantly upon any land, in any part of the world, than will these grasses upon almost any of the lands of western Texas. These leagues upon leagues of sandy post oak lands, although now apparently idle, are to be the pride of the country as vast sheep walks and general stock growing regions.

The mesquite lands or those lands producing the mesquite tree and grasses have a dark rich soil, of good depth, and are generally of a smooth surface. They produce fine corn, potatoes and vegetables generally, and in the interior or mountainous regions fruits in abundance, and I am told the different kinds of grain of northern growth. The principal native tree upon these lands is the mesquite, and I should say it is almost the only tree found upon ranges of entirely mesquite grass. This tree produces a bean which Mexicans feed to their horses, for which I am told they are excellent. The mesquite is generally a scrubby tree, but grows sufficiently tall and straight to make fine posts, which are said to be as lasting as the cedar of the north. The pods of this tree afford an excellent article of dye, and I believe are an article of export from Brazos Santiago. The root is said to comprise much the larger portion of the tree.

The Mexicans and many Americans build from this timber picket fences. These are made by digging a narrow ditch the width and depth of the blade of a spade, in which the bodies and limbs of trees, after being chopped the right length, are set on end as close as possible to each other, around which the dirt from the ditch is closely packed, there being no frost to heave a fence or foundation in this country. When built of mesquite this makes a lasting and profitable fence, and such fence when in order is very safe, as nothing will attempt to jump it when of ordinary hight, say from four to five feet. I have seen a fence of this kind made of live oak trunks and limbs, which I believe may last fifty years and more by occasional mending.

The Texians have another way of building a good fence with less durable timber, with which the settler would soon become acquainted. It is made by throwing the dirt from a ditch all on to one side, in the line of a fence, and planting the short pickets on the embankment; the ditch and the elevated foundation serve as a good share of the fence, as pickets of three or three and a half feet in hight will do in this case. Post and board fence is made to good effect in this country, half the hight being frequently made up as above, of a ditch from which the dirt is thrown along one side, around a row of posts that have been slightly set and which are deeply and firmly secured in their place by the embankment thrown up from the ditch, which may be two and a half feet in width and depth more or less. Two and sometimes three six inch fence boards nailed on to this row of posts, upon the bank of the ditch, is still sufficient for the purposes of the country. Sometimes where lumber is hard to get a ditch answers the purpose of a fence; again, large fields and pastures near the coast, where lumber is nearer at hand, are fenced with posts and boards altogether. A little back from the coast stone fence is sometimes made, though seldom. Concrete fences are being made pretty extensively about the towns, for dooryards, gardens, etc. Rail fences of various descriptions is made, but I do not see any here that will compare with the staked and ridered fences of the north. I mean such as are staked with stakes and a half stake-bound with three and four inch [illegible], this too with [illegible] stones or [illegible]. Hedging is being pretty extensively commenced, of which I shall speak further on.

The mesquite timber is excellent for firewood, and besides affording posts, pickets, and the like, for fencing, it is used for other conveniences by those who are settled near to it.

The man of intelligence and of refinement, who has cultivated a taste for agricultural pursuits, and can appreciate things in general pertaining to the business, and who is capable of the least sublimity of thought, will, when traveling over fine mesquite ranges, after considering their beauty and many virtues, together with the excellent climate in which they are, turn his thoughts upon the Creator with a bursting soul of devout thanks for the feelings of delight and enjoyment that here possess him. In fact, anywhere in western Texas such a man, with a knowledge of what is around him, would feel that the Founder of the universe had been partial to and had wonderfully favored this beautiful nook of creation.

The highlands of western Texas are more or less gravelly and rocky; and, as I have before said, produce a finer quality of native grass than do the low or coast lands. But the reader will not forget that each and every section of our country has its peculiar natural advantages over other sections. Large ranges of these high, rolling and hilly lands, with hardly a tree upon them for miles around, except now and then single tree or cluster, are well supplied with clear [illegible] streams, having branches which find their [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] of your family, if not at first, may be [illegible] and that of your cattle do not range upon a hundred hills, the cupola of your dwelling, with the aid of your glass, may d'oeil the herds of cattle [illegible] upon ten times a hundred hills. This is no [illegible], but the simple truth. It would be very difficult to give the reader anything like a correct idea of all the variety of [illegible] in this vast [illegible] of rolling country in western Texas.

[illegible] with change. [illegible]

21

[illegible]

[illegible] for cultivation. The world of timbered prairie lands of western Texas is generally rolling and hilly, [illegible] anywhere in the interior of western Texas there can be found timber convenient to any place [illegible] which a person would be likely to settle, and [illegible] from any place he could possibly select, water, which timber would answer the purpose of [illegible] a person [illegible] could afford to [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] in this country, [illegible] to [illegible] a dwelling and make such improvements as will suit him and [illegible] such [illegible] as the country affords.

The material for dwellings and all kinds of build- [illegible]

mixed into a mortar and laid up, as above, with board

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

The beauty of the scene follows [illegible] fires, as you travel along and look out upon that chain of prairie fire, with its crackling and [illegible] links, and think of [illegible] comfortable [illegible] the whistling winds and [illegible] reach [illegible], you are inclined to think it is not so bad after all.

These northers contrast wonderfully with the hot siroccos of Australia. When travelling with a party of miners in that country, we were once overtaken by one of these hot winds. We at once [illegible] cart-horses, which seemed to [illegible] the heat, when we [illegible] before the winds reached their greatest heat and [illegible]. To try the effects of the hot [illegible] which we had been warned would [illegible], we could [illegible] into full blast of the wind, and could hardly help [illegible] that our [illegible] were [illegible] with fire, and that we would be burnt to a crisp in a few minutes, and back to [illegible] we would go. But what [illegible] those who were accustomed to these winds travelling along in them as though they were a luxury [illegible] to be dreaded. [illegible] the [illegible] that [illegible] in the [illegible] of the [illegible]. In the coast country of [illegible] Texas [illegible] the coast with a delightful [illegible] from thirty to forty miles into the interior [illegible] could [illegible] in the open [illegible]. The [illegible] upon these [illegible] one might suppose it [illegible] weather [illegible] Texas, many of these people were [illegible] in a group or cluster of live oaks, in the open air, in the dead of winter; and so far as cold is concerned, a person could make most of the year exposed to the elements, with only a shelter [illegible] to keep [illegible] and [illegible] and thousands of people sleep out the year through [illegible] are [illegible]. With two good saddle blankets a person can lay [illegible] nights [illegible] have in these regions.

RIVERS, PRODUCTS, [illegible], SEAPORTS AND INTERIOR TOWNS, GRAZING, AND GENERAL REMARKS.

The largest river in western Texas is the Rio Grande, the boundary between Texas and Mexico, its length being some eighteen hundred miles. It is navigable [illegible] hundred miles from its mouth. [illegible] upon this river [illegible] but it is generally cultivated by irrigation. A majority of the inhabitants along the river are Mexicans, and except Brownsville and the towns [illegible] of [illegible] Mexicans reside upon it. There are American merchants and [illegible] among these people along the river, and also American stock [illegible]. There are many farms [illegible] the [illegible] which make the country [illegible] American [illegible]. By irrigation they [illegible] wheat and various [illegible] vegetables [illegible] of the [illegible] of farming in [illegible] Texas [illegible] the [illegible] of its [illegible] as a [illegible] region. But [illegible] this [illegible] stock country [illegible] generally [illegible] grass, and its want of water for stock purposes can be easily supplied [illegible] with water [illegible] by [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] purpose of [illegible] and filling the pores of the earth to prevent the banks from leaking, after which, when once filled, it affords a permanent drinking place for cattle. A similar course could be most successfully adopted in this droughty section of western Texas, where durable rivers, creeks or lasting water are wanting, and many advantages would arise from this natural want of water, upon the principle that "there is no great loss without some small gain." In the first place, any amount of these lands can be bought for a mere nothing, which are as good as can be, only wanting water in dry weather; and, by supplying this want as above described, the stock grower could control his cattle with but little trouble and hardly any expense, as they would not leave their only place of drinking water in a dry time, where they would not go far away on account of being so thoroughly habituated to the range of these artificial reservoirs. Natural basins can be found all over this country, which, with a little shaping and fixing, after having hogs or stock of any kind fed, 'penned' or yarded, as the northern man would say, in or upon them, for a while, would make durable watering places for stock of all kinds.

The droughty country to which I allude is principally between the rivers Rio Grande and Nueces—a vast prosperous section, a majority of which is yet to be occupied, and where large tracts of land can be had for a trifling consideration; where as fat horses and stock as ever grew upon grass can be found in the dead of winter, and where charming homes and fine stock farms can be made and improved in a way to be forever valuable and profitable. All of this particular section of country is near to Mexico, and he who settles in it will have but a short trip to make over into the mongrel nation and pick up an honest dollar in the way of trade.

The [illegible] to this section of country are Brazos Santiago and Corpus Christi. There is constantly communication between Brazos Santiago, Brownsville or the mouth of the Rio Grande and New Orleans, and steamers from different parts of the world visit Brazos Santiago with cargoes of merchandise for the Mexican trade, and the trade of the country generally in the vicinity of the Rio Grande. These vessels are here loaded with the principal exports of the interior of Mexico and the Rio Grande country, [illegible] some of which are hides, wool, [illegible], etc. The steamships [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] at New Orleans sheep, cattle, goats and horses.

[illegible] gentlemen have imported into the Rio Grande section of western Texas, improved animals, by [illegible] from New Orleans to Brazos Santiago. Such animals being for the improvement of their Texas or Mexican stock, it might pay to look into this matter and see if some of these animals are not needed in this quarter. I have seen large flocks of sheep and [illegible] on the Texas side of the Rio Grande, and it is no doubt a fine sheep country and a good stock country generally. There has been a profitable and extensive trade carried on with the Mexicans at Brownsville and other points on the Rio Grande, [illegible] [illegible], and fine fortunes have been made and are being made in this trade by merchants and [illegible] in those parts. There have been [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] into Mexico by [illegible] [illegible] ([illegible]), which is a [illegible] [illegible] being [illegible].

I will state that as this matter is about going to the press I hear of the disturbances of Cortinas and his followers on the Rio Grande, but I can confidently say that this disturbance will be of short durathem, and all will soon be quiet. The state of Texas has taken measures to protect its frontier, and it will hereafter be perfectly safe.

Corpus Christi, the other outlet to this droughty country, is near the mouth of the Nueces river on Corpus Christi bay. It is a place of no very great importance at present, and is not likely to be large; but a town of [illegible] will [illegible] grow up somewhere on the bay, [illegible] of good [illegible] will render a [illegible] [illegible]. The trade of the whole Nueces valley, and country for some distance to the interior, will support this town (Corpus Christi), or some other town that may grow up near the mouth of the Nueces river, which valley and country I have already said is [illegible] unequalled and is unsurpassed for the wool business. [illegible] travel up the Nueces river to the valley, upon either side, to where the [illegible] of any country would [illegible], and by so doing he could judge something of the capacity of western Texas for the raising of stock, and also of the necessity of a good market outward for this rich adjoining country, midway between Port Cavallo and Brazos Santiago.

There are several little towns and harbours between these two points that have each good prospects, and some one of them will certainly be a place of importance, as the country around and the back country would support it. [illegible] range of [illegible] and [illegible] points of [illegible] of the Nueces in particular [illegible] and [illegible] Corpus Christi and the small towns along the coast between it and Powder Horn have [illegible] communication with Powder Horn. But the people of these towns look forward to the day when they will have a direct communication with New Orleans and other important places of trade.

In regard to this droughty section or droughty seasons and droughty years, I would not be understood that the Nueces river country is an unusually dry section. It is along the Rio Grande and the country west of it toward the [illegible] that is considered droughty; but it is to this same section of country where those that with [illegible] take their small herds of cattle for the purpose of being [illegible] them than they were in [illegible] more plentiful seasons.

That we have dry seasons in western Texas no one can deny, and this is the case in the southern parts of California, and I believe in all extensive stock countries where snow does not fall. If western Texas were a wet country I do not believe it would be a good stock country, and it, no doubt, would not be as healthy a country as it now is. I have noticed particularly that stock of all kinds get fatter and do better in dry seasons than in wet ones, although they have to walk much farther for their water. I have also noticed that stock of all kinds are freer from disease in dry seasons. In wet seasons sheep, unless rightly managed, contract the foot-rot and other diseases, but in dry seasons there is not the least danger of their being troubled with it. In wet seasons horses are troubled with [illegible] fever and other diseases that are hardly known in dry seasons; and a winter following a wet summer and fall is sometimes very hard upon stock, particularly if they get thin and weak, when they frequently bog down in their places of drinking; but wet seasons are not frequent and the death of an animal in Texas is no calamity to speak of—it costs so little to raise them that a stock-grower hardly notices or speaks of the loss of so few animals. Cattle and horses die here upon the prairies and their owners hardly ever take the pains to know the cause of their death. It is but recently that people have been at all particular about skinning and saving the hides of animals. Diseases, however, among stock of any kind are very rare in this country, and the loss of stock from diseases in western Texas is small compared with stock losses in the northern states and other countries.

In regard to the effects of drought upon crops, the writer can say that western Texas, truly and strictly speaking, is a natural stock country or grass country, and not generally a agricultural country, although corn and other grains by being early planted and well attended, do very well in all parts of western Texas, and I believe that almost everything that grows can be produced here; yet, owing to the somewhat uncertainty of the seasons and other causes, western Texas is considered a better stock than a general farming country, although some may say there is no better farming country.

Portions of western Texas have been troubled with grasshoppers, and, to my certain knowledge, small sections of country have been stripped of their last spear of vegetation by these insects, just as has been the case in Australia, and with cotton, corn, wheat, and everything so much ever produced in the country, except in certain small sections. Grasshoppers are liable to visit any country, but, I suppose, are more likely to operate upon prairie countries than those gradually being settled up and cultivated. I have noticed that breaking and cultivating wild lands drives away mosquitoes, and I have no doubt is also a sure way to keep away grasshoppers. It is a well known fact that there is a peculiar insect destroyer for almost everything that grows out of the earth, and [illegible] to be favored with, an account of ticks, [illegible] I [illegible]

[illegible]

the river, and upon the opposite side the valley may be six miles [illegible] is said to [illegible] timbered. Again [illegible] timbered [illegible] it is a wide valley upon either side of the river.

This river is settled by [illegible] planters, and some [illegible] of these [illegible] lands are yet unoccupied, and are for sale, but at higher prices than [illegible] lands adjoining [illegible] the lands [illegible] to the Rio Grande, [illegible] bottom lands upon smaller rivers. Large stock-growers are also settled upon the Colorado, and their stock range over the vast prairie plain [illegible] of the river [illegible]

[illegible] from Matagorda bay, [illegible] the town of Matagorda [illegible] between this town and the [illegible] landing of steamships [illegible] in that bay. [illegible] west of the Colorado river [illegible] Powder Horn or Lower Indianola, [illegible] The reason for confining myself to this particular scope of country is because the most of it is more [illegible] with [illegible] and a [illegible] of it is covered with [illegible] grass, and [illegible] favored than [illegible] country [illegible] upon the face of the earth [illegible] grazing purposes. Of course I do not include the [illegible] late [illegible] between the [illegible] of the Colorado [illegible] Texas.

[illegible] the Colorado to the [illegible] rivers [illegible] or [illegible] Lavaca bay. Texana, a town of considerable trade and importance, is situated on the west bank of the Navidad, [illegible] above its junction with the Lavaca river. It is the trading point for stock-growers and planters for many miles around. Small vessels ply between this town and [illegible], an extensive part of Matagorda bay, about ten miles from the principal landing of steamships in this bay.

Austin, the capital of the State, is on the Colorado, about five hundred miles from its mouth. The rich bottom lands of the Colorado continue to above Austin, and the rolling prairie lands above this city correspond with much of the Guadalupe country, and would give the traveler a pretty good idea of large regions of western Texas.

I am sorry to say that I am able to take the reader above the city of Austin with only hearsay and what I have read. From the many representations that I have seen and heard in regard to the country west and north-west of Austin, I can safely say that it is a charming sheep country. But when you get north of Austin, you are getting into regions where the winters are more severe, and where I suppose it is necessary to secure up hay, etc., for the wintering of stock. It may be, and I am inclined to think is the case, that with the cultivated grasses and bermuda grasses, rightly managed, northern Texas could winter stock generally without cutting up hay or feed to any great extent. That northern Texas is a beautiful stock country, all who are acquainted with it agree. But I wish to confine myself, principally, to a portion of country where stock can live upon grass the year through, without having hay or anything else laid up to feed in the winter, and this makes a great part of the immense country between the Colorado and Rio Grande rivers, over much of which the writer has repeatedly traveled.

The largest rivers between the Nueces and Navidad, are the Guadalupe and San Antonio. These rivers connect a small distance above their entrance into

Espiritu Santo bay, which bay has a navigable connection with Matagorda bay. The navigation of the Guadalupe has been several times attempted, and steamboats are now, irregularly, running as high as Victoria upon this river, from the landing of steamships at [illegible] [illegible] much hope of [illegible].

The head waters and rapids of the rivers of western Texas, are frequently spoken of as affording good water privileges for mills and manufacturing establishments [illegible] of [illegible].

Cotton is extensively produced along the Guadalupe, and its valley, for some distance, is wide and heavily timbered. There are also several very pretty towns situated on this stream. Cotton is produced to a small extent near San Antonio, but I believe this river is considered the terminus of cotton lands westward, both north and south, in Texas. I am, however, so little acquainted with the culture of this great staple of the south, that I should be out of place in attempting to speak of it. But I can say that cotton-growers in Texas seem to be a wealthy and prosperous people, and, so far as I know, an honorable people, of whom [illegible] should be proud.

The timbered valley lands of the San Antonio are principally below Goliad; above this, on the river, is not [illegible] timbered. But its valleys are, to a great extent, of beautiful prairie lands, up to the head of the river, and the country through which the upper San Antonio runs may be considered a pretty good [illegible] country, [illegible] with the [illegible].

There are several pretty towns on the San Antonio river. Goliad and San Antonio are the two largest, and the latter is considered the second largest city in the state. This city is about a hundred and sixty miles from Matagorda bay, and a railroad from Lavaca and [illegible] several miles of which are already completed, and [illegible] will soon, no doubt, give [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] country [illegible] [illegible] New Orleans. Besides the rivers already [illegible] [illegible] Rio Grande and [illegible] [illegible] There are [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] Texas. These [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] resort to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] lakes and ponds, of various sizes, [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] lakes, ponds, creeks, lagoons, &c., from the [illegible] to the Rio Grande, and from the gulf-coast of this country to the headwaters of the [illegible], San Antonio, Guadalupe [illegible] I would call the attention of [illegible] thoroughly [illegible] will be a second Eden, producing as much for the support and good of mankind as any portion of country, of its dimensions, in the wide world; and he that gets [illegible] fully watered and timbered, or in the midst of good ranges, [illegible] small and large, in this [illegible] country, would be the work of years upon [illegible] pages. But before concluding this work, I will give the reader some directions about finding desirable localities and cheap lands for cattle [illegible] raising purposes in western Texas. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the good thing upon which

to screen one's self for the purpose of approaching deer. The usual way of hunting these animals is on horseback. The horseman, if yet near to a drove or herd of deer, gets into a thick cover by the side of his horse, which is frequently trained to the work. Deer are easily approached by [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] animals upon the [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] in imitation of their [illegible]. When traveling through our prairies in the spring of the year, young deer are often started from their hiding places, and are easily run down with a good horse. The venison of this country is most excellent eating, and there is hardly a family in the country who does not use it in some quantity, and many families use it [illegible]. Deer are [illegible] seen in droves of all sizes; droves of one, twenty, and thirty, are very common, and a hundred are frequently seen together; and I have seen in plain sight of a thousand acres at once, not far from the Nueces river, but in different droves.

Antelopes.—The antelope is much the same, at a distance, as a deer. They are more slender, and are noted for their beautiful appearance when running. Their horns are [illegible] and [illegible] to be compared with those of the deer. I believe they are seldom seen along the coast, but are very plentiful back among the hills and fine sheep ranges, as are deer upon or near to the coast. The pursuit of the antelope is most exciting, and they [illegible] easily [illegible] the country as are deer upon our coast prairies. I am told that by swinging over the head a piece of red cloth, attached to the end of a ramrod or stick, will circle around and come within shooting distance of you. I was recently told by a respectable man that the men of his train shot not less than thirty of these animals while coming through upper western Texas, and that he saw thousands of them. Their size is about the same as that of the deer, but I believe they are somewhat more compact and heavy.

MOUNTAIN SHEEP.—The mountain sheep I have never seen, but by [illegible] those who have seen them, [illegible] which is called the Rocky Mountain sheep is really the [illegible]. Whatever they may be they are [illegible]. That they will [illegible] from a great height and light upon their [illegible] horns, I have been [illegible] by [illegible] hunters [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] not so remarkable as the fact of their ability to throw themselves [illegible] a frightful distance and [illegible] upon their horns [illegible] they do.

WILD GOATS.—The wild goats I know nothing of except by hearsay, unless they are the same as the mountain goat to which I [illegible], and judging from the accounts that I have heard of them, I should suppose them to be the same, which favors the supposition that they may be domesticated.

BUFFALOES OR BISONS.—The buffalo or bison I have already spoken of as migrating [illegible] from the settled portions of western Texas. They are to be found in upper western Texas, and are hunted by gangs of Mexicans, Indians and white men, who jerk and cure their meat for [illegible], and preserve their hides for [illegible].

WILD CATTLE.—Wild cattle, besides those to which I have alluded, are found in places where there are other cattle. They are hunted in places principally for their hides, but their meat, tallow and horns are saved to a great extent. The Rio Grande country affords a vast amount of beautiful hides. Wild cattle will soon be killed off or driven beyond the limits of good ranges for stock in western Texas.

Hogs.—Hogs and Wild hogs are plentiful in this country, [illegible] in the [illegible] [illegible] of these [illegible] [illegible] for breaking and [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] The javelina, or Mexican hog [illegible] that I have found [illegible] although I have been [illegible] of western Texas [illegible] These animals are a [illegible] species of the hog. They are [illegible] in [illegible] with them [illegible] They [illegible] upon their body, which makes them offensive to the smell, and unless it is taken away as soon as killed they are considered by some as unfit to eat. Others say that they have eaten them regardless of this and doubt them having any such offensive gland about them. They are sometimes caught and [illegible] and sell [illegible] good price as a curiosity.

Bears.—I suppose there are several kinds of bears in this country, but I have seen only the black bear, which is quite plentiful in parts of western Texas. [illegible]

[illegible] down and die from the [illegible] upon his path. These animals do not destroy as many calves upon any pasture as one would suppose they ought to. Wherever a young calf is [illegible] by one of them it gives the bawl of [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] quite common [illegible] in some way [illegible]

Prairie Dog.—[illegible]

[illegible] They are frequently [illegible] and [illegible]

Coon, Groundhog, etc.—The coon, opossum, jack and common rabbit are as plentiful in western Texas and probably more easily [illegible] than in almost any other country. [illegible]

[illegible]

The wild turkey is excellent for the table, and there are any quantity of them in western Texas. I have often been with parties of [illegible] upon [illegible] However [illegible] turkey, but [illegible]. If he understands the work, he will try and keep the bird on foot as far as possible, for the purpose of getting it wearied before it takes the wing. But when he flies, the rider increases his speed, and if the turkey's wings give out any considerable distance from the thicket for which he is making, the horseman [illegible] and [illegible]; but if the turkey can [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with which he was [illegible] where the turkey [illegible] down.

In the spring of the year, when the [illegible] there are [illegible] in the country, the hunter [illegible] goes out in the morning into the [illegible] where they [illegible] hearing [illegible] gobbling [illegible] them [illegible] from their place of [illegible]. They are sometimes made to [illegible] which is often done with the help of a peculiar bone taken from the turkey, and [illegible] by placing it to the mouth a very accurate imitation of the [illegible] is made; and many a [illegible] to the call of the [illegible] [illegible] a little [illegible] the end of the bone. Turkeys are [illegible] hunted with dogs, [illegible] for the purpose of [illegible] them into trees, where the [illegible]. They are found [illegible]

Sandhill Cranes.—The sand hill crane is a bird somewhat larger than the [illegible], with [illegible] long legs and neck, and [illegible]. They are of two colors—white and light grey, the former being a little the largest. During the winter and spring they are very numerous [illegible] prairies. Where they go to hatch I do not know. They are rather shy, although plenty of them are shot, and when properly cooked they are fine for the table.

Prairie Chickens.—Prairie chickens are nowhere [illegible] ing in his [illegible]

[illegible] prairie chicken, [illegible] all found over western Texas.

PLOVERS [illegible]—Plovers are here in [illegible] believe. They are a [illegible] bird, [illegible] Snipes are everywhere, [illegible] in western Texas. Wild pigeons are seldom seen near the coast, but are more or less plentiful in the upper country. I suppose the more general production of the [illegible] nearer the coast would bring them there.

GAME.—Swan, geese and ducks are here during the fall, winter and spring, in such numbers as were never seen in any country but this. It is not unusual in [illegible] any bays and lakes for miles back and [illegible]

[illegible] get among them and kill them with a club. He said he could get at them in ponds of water better than any

the ponds all about these lakes are full of water, in which there are thousands of geese and ducks, and [illegible] about. [illegible] into these ponds upon your horse among these geese and ducks, and start them up; [illegible] are flying in every direction, and the [illegible] ing [illegible] in their [illegible] [illegible] above and about the [illegible] and [illegible] too low, strike the trees, and fall an easy prey to those [illegible] out and prepare for the fall. [illegible] night, and in a suitable place, [illegible] secured.

Ducks.—Wild ducks of many kinds and colors in southern Texas, and [illegible] up to that of the [illegible]. Many of them are not only beautiful in color, but excellent for the table. When returning, in the fall of the year, from their [illegible] fields, they go every day to the [illegible] with [illegible] live [illegible] of the [illegible] guns, and [illegible] lots of ducks, geese, etc., etc., [illegible] to the [illegible]. For many months of the year they are very plentiful in and about all the fresh waters of the country. They

[illegible] quite black, the [illegible] is white, and a [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] MAN

[illegible]. Although the [illegible] are not [illegible] and [illegible] als, etc., are but [illegible] to do as much for western Texas as these great elevators of man can do for any part of the world. And it is a good [illegible] for the good [illegible] man. And why? Because there is [illegible] and the good [illegible] a good [illegible] the good man's [illegible] would [illegible] make it an inducement for the Christian [illegible], and [illegible] so [illegible] if I may be [illegible] men, and [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] who say they would not exchange [illegible] for any [illegible]

[illegible] support, does not so well. But the truth is, [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] various [illegible] places. [illegible]

[illegible] Texas. [illegible] lands, or to his [illegible] told [illegible]

[illegible] and of course he would get a stock of large; and if [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] with [illegible] for the [illegible]; [illegible] kind of [illegible], [illegible] of cotton bills. How is the planter to get [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] self; but for those who [illegible]

[illegible]

to the best advantage he can; part with his yearling mules, useless sheep and horses, cattle, or anything that will not injure the breeding capacity of his stock. At the same time, let him avoid all unnecessary planting, and make all necessary inquiries in regard to the proper management of the cotton crop in western Texas; let him work early and late, breaking up early, preparing the lands for a good crop, which, by perseverance, will surely, sooner or later, then [illegible]

Would any one wish to discourage the emigration of cotton-growers to western Texas? [illegible]

Let us see how this really is. In the year 1866 we will bring A. from Alabama to western Texas, with a financed company, and settle him upon a certain tract, where he shall improve a place with the expectation of gaining a crop from the first planting. He contracts debts with the idea of paying them with his first crop of cotton; and, failing to get a crop, he has perhaps made contracts that he could possibly have avoided, with money from some other debt. He gets the payment, once more upon his plantation, put over to next year, and his creditors' claims put off until the next crop. The next year he gets no crop, or but a slim crop, and he begins to feel the weight of his debts, which are presented for payment, and he has nothing with which to meet them, except his property and the plantation with its improvements. The result is bad. He and the family are ruined and silly write home to their friends in the eastern states that western Texas, and all about their trouble, the ruin and misfortune. Their correspondents [illegible] spread the gloomy tidings from western Texas, and perplexity all around.

[illegible] let us, in a few words, bring B. the same year (1866) to western Texas, and settle him upon the same rivals. B. also got in debt, and improved a plantation. But he does not buy as much land as did A. Instead of which he bought a stock of cattle, [illegible], [illegible] a jack and a few [illegible], for the purpose of raising mules, and improving the stock of [illegible]. His first and second crops of cotton were out [illegible] of it. He [illegible] upon his stock, which he sells off, and I [illegible] as soon as it will do without injuring its increasing [illegible]. B. [illegible] for a crop [illegible]. The consequence is, that he and those other [illegible] [illegible] friends [illegible], though [illegible] one, [illegible] the [illegible] along, and they now have [illegible] property, [illegible] a very [illegible] through the country, and a [illegible] to [illegible]. Come to western Texas, my friends, and do as we have done, and you will [illegible]. The result: by the friends of B. and family [illegible] the good tidings from western Texas, and many [illegible] of the [illegible] these good accounts and [illegible] way to the country.

Is this discouraging the immigration of planters? or is it [illegible] a [illegible] the [illegible] who might come to western Texas and run through his property, for the want of just such [illegible] as this, and thereby retard the settlement of our western lands?

And again, you [illegible], [illegible] my book, which [illegible] the Yankees, [illegible] to know more of [illegible] of you, and know them to be the people to make a great [illegible] country of this, and develop its resources and [illegible] in other respects; but in many of my remarks I have used the term southern [illegible] people north of Texas.

I would not apply my remarks in regard to the failure of the cotton crop to eastern Texas, nor even central Texas; for, if I am not mistaken, the Colorado bottoms are equal to any lands in the state for the growth of cotton, and the [illegible] along this river, I believe, are uniformly good for cotton.

To return to the merchant, whom I have purposely mixed in with the planter and stock-grower, as he is so peculiarly interested in the whole country: I said that the profits of trade in this country are large. This may seem to conflict with much that I have before said, unless it should appear that the profits of all kinds of business are correspondingly large, which is generally the case. It is a fact, that the merchant's profits upon his goods in western Texas, compared with the northern merchant's profits, are as a half dime is to a penny, or thereabouts; and this may be said of mechanical business and trade generally. What is bought in the north at wholesale for a penny and retailed for two pennies is here retailed for half a dime at least. Were such a ferry as the New York and Brooklyn established anywhere between two cities in the south, however large they might be, the cost of a ride from one to the other would probably be five cents, at least, instead of a penny, as in the north. The blacksmith, for shoeing a horse in western Texas, will have more than double the amount the smith gets for the same job in the north. This is a true scale of prices upon which business is done in this country, and why should not merchants and tradesmen do well here? If articles of a penny's value, in a mercantile or shop establishment of the north, would here sell for a half dime, and often a dime, and if the foregoing is illustrative of business in general, what say you, merchants and tradesmen, of all kinds, is this being a good country for you? It may justly be said that it would cost more to run a ferryboat, to get articles of trade, and the blacksmith's iron, etc., in the south than in the north; but the difference of cost of raw material in the two sections is nothing to compare with the difference in profits.

The penny or cent is rarely seen here. I do not mention this as a credit to the country, nor as a discredit to those eastern countries where they are used. It is only to show the profits of trade in western Texas that I speak of this coin. I believe that a coin of this small value is a great indication—it is a proof of economy and industry. We will suppose that the penny coin of New York city might be done away with, and then nothing less than the five cent-piece were there used, what would be the profits of the Brooklyn and New York city ferries, when getting five cents for what they now have but one cent, and with which they make money! The great necessity of the penny as small coin in the north is a striking proof of economy, and more than all, of ingenuity. Were it not for the invention of machinery, and the ingenuity and economy of the machinist and shipwright, how could such crowds of people go in the convenient and quick way that they do, for a single penny, from New York to Brooklyn!

I would not make people small, but if ever the time is when the penny will be indispensable in the south, it will be when there is more practical skill and ingenuity among the people, and when the profits upon articles of trade are not so large as they now are, or when more business is done to realize the same profits.

SPECULATION vs. INCOME.

Western Texas is a good country for the speculator, so far as articles of speculation are purchased. Because, by buying here, the speculator has not only the chances of a rise in the price of his property, but the advantages of buying in a country where things are easily and cheaply produced, and such things, too, as can be cheaply exported to those countries where they are more laboriously and expensively produced. For instance, a hundred head of average weight of six hundred pounds at [illegible] two dollars and a half, and driven for one dollar and a half to a country where it costs, perhaps, [illegible] of the same weight, and [illegible], with the [illegible] [illegible] the same [illegible] which, [illegible] had in [illegible] would [illegible] a big advantage to the purchaser of the Texas beef over the purchaser of [illegible] the Texas beef [illegible] the right kind of experienced drovers; and when the cattle of Texas are improved, there will be a still greater advantage in favor of the purchaser of Texas beef-cattle, if speculation or driving north be the object of the purchaser; and in fact, if those northern men who now come here and take beeves to Chicago and northern markets would manage differently, they would make much more money than they now do. If, in the place of taking wild, rough, light-quartered animals, they would take choice cattle only, and employ experienced managers and drivers, they would, at anything like the present prices in Texas, always be very sure to make, and with good luck, their profits would be larger. And by always demanding choice cattle, the stock-growers would see the necessity of improving their cattle, which improvement would make demand for blooded stock, which the drover might take on to Texas with him when he goes for a drove of beeves. Should a northern drover think of doing this, he should go on to Texas with his fine stock in the fall, and sell out during the winter, and get ready to start in early spring with his Texas beeves for the northern markets.

A drove of about seven hundred beeves was driven from middle Texas to Chicago, about two years since, which, it is said, cleared about ten thousand dollars. This drove was no doubt very well managed; but there are always a number of inferior cattle in it, and had they happened to have reached a glutted market, these inferior ones might have entailed loss of money upon the drove; whereas, if the cattle had been [illegible] discriminated [illegible], these might have gone into the common market and [illegible] still be made money. To my knowledge, there have been many men here, within the last six years, who have bought large droves of Texas beeves for northern markets. Some of these men have not done well, simply because they did not know how to buy, select, and drive Texas beef-cattle.

When a northern man comes here for a drove of beef-cattle, let him come in time to look around and see where he can buy to advantage. He need not make any noise, or let people know what he is about, until he finds a large range or extent of country where the beeves, for the year or two previous, have not been much culled or sold out. When found, he should secure such cattle, unless they are known to be generally wild and bad to manage. There are certain portions in Texas where northern men should be very careful about buying: and wherever, or of whomever, he may buy, his contract should call for all his or their beef-cattle; that is to say, all such beef-cattle as he, the purchaser or his assigns, shall consider good and merchantable; and then, in his selection, he should not take a light, rough, washy and ugly beef, nor those that are at all stagy. But he should select those that are uniformly smooth, with as clean necks and horns

[illegible]

[illegible]

be where wagons or men on foot do not frequent, and;

if possible, where nothing might occur to frighten them. [illegible] purchase of [illegible] would employ [illegible] carry [illegible] compensate [illegible] liberally. [illegible] any one [illegible] for the business, you are sure to make money in the end, and them heavily, too. By treating the drivers liberally and well, I do not mean that you must give them their own way, or let them impose on you. Use them [illegible] they do their duty. The purchaser should remember that he is [illegible] [illegible] be over $8,000, and I believe there were at least two other clerks in the company whose interest was as large or larger than this. In 1880 large lot of cattle were [illegible] the beginning of this [illegible] the sale of [illegible] profits.

[illegible]

The shipping of beef and cattle from western Texas to New Orleans, Mobile and Cuba, is an extensive [illegible] for its profitable business. The writer is largely concerned in this trade [illegible] knowledge of western Texas. It is the buying, driving and shipping of beef and veal cattle from different parts of Texas to New Orleans, for a [illegible] than any other one thing, [illegible] the [illegible] of the country [illegible] foreigners. There is [illegible] of this business, and it is to be a large and growing trade [illegible] western Texas [illegible]. The writer [illegible] upon this subject [illegible] have made [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] up [illegible] [illegible] I [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible]

BEEF PACKING.

[illegible] attempted, but without success, [illegible] carried on, to some extent, in western Texas. [illegible] fact that if a process were generally understood whereby beef could be packed in Texas so as to keep, and pass inspection [illegible] it would soon be an extensive [illegible] profitable business.

There has been, to the writer's knowledge, within the last three years, several hundred barrels of beef packed in western Texas, for the New York market, which bore inspection, and did very well for the packer, although its [illegible] disadvantage in the opinion of [illegible]. The [illegible] to Chicago, thousands of miles, and [illegible] it, has been well [illegible] pack it [illegible] of the country. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] take them, and generally find them all together, not far off, in the morning. But great care and watchfulness should be exercised until the animals are reconciled to each other, and are [illegible] to stay together or follow the [illegible] of the drover. Sometimes cattle will unavoidably stampede from the scent of wolves or other animals, and various other causes. [illegible] [illegible] Mississippi [illegible] hundred acres of corn annually, [illegible] of it in this way [illegible] at several dollars per bushel. [illegible] Mississippi river, where they could be bought cheap, [illegible]

LAND [illegible]

[illegible] could [illegible] to come, than in Texas; but this business is too much on the "church" cease to admit of much encouragement from a friend of the poor man. I think I could write many interesting pages upon this subject, but it would [illegible]

[illegible]

In the opinion of the writer [illegible] twenty years [illegible] quantities. [illegible] erally know pretty well where to send [illegible] its value. I will close the subject by [illegible] that the speculators [illegible] sheep from the [illegible] country, [illegible] understands the business of [illegible] sheep, [illegible] marks. All who are acquainted with the sheep business know the danger of overdriving them. When starting a flock for a long journey, the greatest care should be used not to overdrive them for the first few days, if you do [illegible] the consequences are that some of your flock will begin to lag and go behind, [illegible] in the wagon, [illegible] to [illegible] trifle, [illegible]. In regard to [illegible] of [illegible] rod road will nibble their way along as fast as they should go without being driven; in fact, there should always [illegible] in- [illegible]

[illegible] should [illegible] that your sheep are not drowned or injured by [illegible] a good landing place and the current of the river is not too strong. A flock of sheep should never be put into a rapid stream, unless there is a broad, easy landing upon the opposite side, and then a few should be tried first to see how they make the landing. There should always be [illegible] place to [illegible] the water [illegible] any sheep that is too much exhausted to get out without assistance. A large flock of sheep should be divided and swum in parts, or else it should be [illegible] and but few allowed to go in at once; and there should always be two men, at least, at the landing place, and should anything go wrong in the water, or at the landing, that would be likely to [illegible] or interrupt their [illegible], the flock should be instantly stopped and driven back, and great care taken that the balance of the flock does not [illegible] and get the advantage of you by their determination to follow those that, perhaps, are yet in the water and not out of danger.

A safe and excellent way to swim sheep is to leave the flock, or a portion of it, upon the water's edge, where there should be a [illegible] with two men [illegible] one to attend and [illegible] the sheep and the other a way to [illegible] the sheep; [illegible] to sit still [illegible], if possible, and to [illegible] one or two strong sheep from the flock, and [illegible] into the water, [illegible] and keep them in a low voice [illegible]. The moment they begin to [illegible] the boat and head it [illegible] to make the opposite landing pretty well up. [illegible] of swimming sheep [illegible] is a good way to [illegible], if you have an ox or an animal that will lead well into the water.

[illegible] upon this subject, [illegible] perience in the business has been quite extensive; but I have said enough to caution any inexperienced or careless person, who may start out for Texas with a drove of [illegible]. I do not think that in driving from Illinois to Texas, through Missouri and the Indian territory, there would be much [illegible] to the [illegible] less it [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]; and before risking much by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], I should pay [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible], or [illegible] [illegible], particularly if the drove is [illegible] in good condition and strong. [illegible], I will say, what I have in [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible], or [illegible] of any kind, should always have a good, experienced and [illegible] [illegible] drover, such a journey as the one in question. Such a trip would naturally be [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]; consequently, whether going from the north to Texas, or from Texas to the north, with stock of any kind, a trusty, experienced and prudent manager should be employed.

I once knew a Pennsylvania drover, who came to Texas and purchased a large drove, consisting of [illegible] hundred beeves, for the Pennsylvania market. The [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] of [illegible] in the sale and delivery of these cattle and [illegible], it may be had some [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible], [illegible] ply [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. The consequence was, that he drove [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and many of his [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. A lot of green hands, without the right kind of a Texas stock-driving manager, [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible], [illegible] or [illegible], [illegible] a very [illegible] disaster upon the drover.

Had this Pennsylvanian employed a number-one Texas [illegible], drover and manager, and kind consulted and advised with him in regard to the selection, purchase and delivery of the cattle, and in regard to the employment of drivers, &c., his speculation would have proved a paying and pleasant one; whereas, the result of his bad management, of course, brought down his curses upon Texas and everything in it.

MECHANICS,

Of various kinds, will find Texas, and particularly western Texas, an excellent field of operation. The country is prosperous, and building is going on very extensively. Besides dwellings, stores, warehouses, wharves, and the like, there are cotton gins, grist-mills, saw-mills, cotton factories, tanneries, etc., being constructed. Manufacturing of various kinds is quite extensively carried on, and its material extension in many branches is confidently anticipated. Why should Texas send her vast amount of hides abroad to be tanned, while she is so well supplied with the finest of tanning bark? There are a thousand and one suggestions of this kind that I might make in regard to this country, were it not that I have other matters under consideration with which I wish to conclude this work.

I will say, in conclusion to mechanics, that the country is fast filling up. Emigration is continually pouring in, and an increasing demand for mechanical and services is to be the result. And furthermore, that I know a plenty of mechanics and professional laborers, who have invested their profits and savings of their business and labor in stock of some kind and giving it in charge of stock-growers to breed and look after, have become independent and wealthy men.

THE POOR MAN.

Western Texas, of all climes, is the country for the poor man; and also for the man who would retrench, or who is unable to keep pace with the prodigality of the times in the country where it may be his fortune to live. I have [illegible] of a cluster of trees as the place of my [illegible] of these pages were written in the open air, beneath this group of live oaks, in the fall and winter season. During winter, much of the time a person may set comfortably in the shade of a tree for the purpose of writing or [illegible]. If at times we have cold snaps or northers, of short duration, and other spells of cool, damp weather, [illegible] Texas. Consequently it is a country where the poor man can get along [illegible] for the purpose of building [illegible] comfortable. He [illegible] sections, a house [illegible] family could be comfortable and [illegible] until his [illegible] would justify the erection of a substantial [illegible] and [illegible] from the very [illegible] that would be [illegible] he could put all his [illegible] and then buy a home to the best advantage. If it is not more than [illegible] it will do until the increase of [illegible] in other ways, [illegible] small stock-growers [illegible] of which very often it [illegible] proceeds of the stock [illegible] Almost any [illegible] a poor man to settle upon lands suitable for stock-raising purposes, with the understanding that the holder shall buy as soon as he is [illegible] them.

I will say, that in western Texas the titles of lands have been much in dispute, and are somewhat so now. It therefore behooves a person to consider the title he is to get, before paying his money for land. This is often an advantage to the settler, from the fact that the contending parties will allow him to improve a place, with an understanding that he shall pay to the party whom the law shall decide as being the rightful owner, and from whom a good title can be procured, which often gives the settler ample time to get ready to pay for his place by the time the successful party, in law, is qualified to convey to him an indisputable title. There is, however, an ample amount of good lands for sale in western Texas, the titles of which are perfectly clear and undisputed. In fact, the courts of the country, within the last few years, have settled questions of law and finally fixed the titles to a vast amount of the heretofore disputed territory of Texas. Now it is to the poor man who moves to western Texas with but little or nothing except his head and hands to get along with, that I would address myself for a while. I will hereafter mention some of the different kinds of labor for which there is a demand in western Texas. But besides these, there are many things to which the poor man, particularly the apt and handy northern man, can turn his attention with but little or no money to start with. Where I was situated, I knew of men who were in the habit of going into the deep forests of the country to hunt deer for their peltry and venison during the whole winter season. They would travel upon their own resources from one month's end to another, removed from all human habitations by scores of miles, and were well satisfied if they could get the hides and hams of one or two deer per day, which they would lug upon their backs for miles into camp, and perform more hard work in a tedious, costly country, [illegible] their two [illegible] each, then it would require [illegible] hundred in this [illegible] country. If a person will use the right means in this country, he can make more money at this business than he could in any country. I have seen [illegible] I have been to many parts where deer were abundant. [illegible] And the beauty of the thing is, [illegible] and [illegible] agreeable. The [illegible] is [illegible] well, but with the present [illegible] for the purpose [illegible] go with a [illegible] and [illegible] the hides of which [illegible] per pound [illegible] the proceeds of which [illegible]. The hams are dried and packed [illegible] a [illegible] The flavor of deer, [illegible] were living [illegible] would not [illegible] but his family could be [illegible] and a drove of hogs [illegible] with this [illegible] plan of [illegible]

These remarks, I am well aware, would seem to conflict with remarks that I have said [illegible]: but there are, in all countries, men who will [illegible] themselves for the purpose of hunting, and why should they not [illegible] as well as in [illegible]?

Would [illegible] make money in a country where there [illegible] and where, upon [illegible] there can be seen droves of hundreds every day, and where, on horseback, by looking in different directions, a person can sometimes see five hundred or a thousand at a time? How often have I thought, when traveling over this country, that hundreds and thousands of huntsmen, in different countries, would be delighted to know what they could do here, and would come, if they knew, and redeem these wild animals now to the use of mankind. It certainly seems a pity that they should live in such numbers upon our prairies, without the least expense to a mortal man, and left so uselessly to die of their old age, or fall a prey to wolves, panthers, tigers, and other useless animals, when they might be so easily secured and made to answer a better end. Huntsmen, why not come here and send a bullet to the hearts of these old bucks, and make soft and beautiful leather of their skins, and send it to your cold countrymen to clothe their hands in the shape of mittens and gloves, with which to make soft shoes for the old and feeble, and whip lashes for the drovers, or coverings for musical instruments, and a thousand other purposes! Why not come here and secure millions of these geese and ducks, and send their feathers to your cold countrymen, to make warm nests for their sleeping chambers, in which they may sleep comfortably, when the cold frosty winds whistle around their chambers! Come and send home the snow-white, downy skins of the swans, to comfort the cherry cheeked daughters of my land; come and decoy our animals of fur, and make use of this great waste of everything.

The different towns of the prairie country require more or less hay and wood, and the grass upon the prairies is free to any man who has a mind to cut and make hay of it, and who knows how to swing the scythe and manage the mowing machine. Many a little load of prairie hay have I seen sold for ten and fifteen dollars, and many a ton of northern hay have I known to sell here, in some extreme cases, for forty dollars; while the interior of the country is covered with mesquite grass, which makes the best of hay, and all around these coast towns there is heavy sedge grass that will do very well, and is now taking the place of northern hay. Mowing machines are being brought on, and quite extensively used. Farmers and stock-growers cure some of this hay for the working stock that they wish to keep up and handy by. They give employment to these machines. Although a pasture of mesquite or bermuda grass, near at hand, would obviate this necessity, yet men are slow to make any progress in economy that has always yielded abundant [illegible], except immediately around [illegible] towns and farms that have been occupied for a long time, where the grass is eat out.

There is an immense amount of freighting done in this country by ox teams, and horse teams. Many a rugged [illegible] gets his start in the [illegible] business by freighting goods into the interior. It is not unusual here to see as many as twenty heavy-loaded wagons in a string, drawn by from four to six yoke of oxen each. Mexican [illegible] teams are considerably used, but more by the Germans than other people. The government freight business is very large in western Texas. Heretofore the government has done its own freighting from the coast into the interior, but recently this business, in the lower country, is contracted *out*, and the contractors employ Mexicans or re-let their contracts, in part, to them, wherever a large number of Mexican carts and oxen, which are driven by Mexicans. It is not unusual to see a string of thirty or forty Mexican carts, all loaded for the interior, with government stores and supplies. The oxen are yoked by the horns! These Mexican ox-yokes are simply a straight stick, grooved a little to fit the head, just back of the horns, and simply lashed to them with raw-hide straps. It seems rather cruel to men of the older states to see these animals work in this way; but the weight they pull, the distance they travel, and the exertion they will endure in this peculiar yoke, is astonishing to all. It is nevertheless a cruel way to use oxen, as holding the head in one position for many hours at a time, is evidently very painful, and the appearance of the ox indicates a state of great suffering. Mexicans are becoming a little Americanized in this respect, and are adopting, more or less, the American way of working oxen.

It takes some little capital to get in the freighting business, but persons of good character can generally get together a few oxen and a wagon on time, and get at the business with but very little money. There is always more or less job-work, of every kind, to be done in the towns of the country, such as street-making and repairing, garden-making, building fences, and getting material out of the forests for hauling, breaking up prairie lands, furnishing the towns with vegetables, butter and milk, poultry and eggs, game, oysters, fish, etc. The gathering of moss, with which the forests of portions of eastern Texas are loaded, and which is used to a vast extent as a substitute for hair by the upholsterers and manufacturers of innumerable useful articles of furniture, etc., can be done by any one. This moss is prepared for sale and use by rotting and cleaning off the covering of its fiber, which resembles much in appearance and answers to a great extent the same purpose as the hair from the tails and manes of horses, etc. The rotting is done by burying it in the ground for a couple of weeks; it is then taken up and washed, picked, pulled, and cleaned until fit for use. Thousands of people buy to-day, in the shape of mattresses, lounges, etc., who do not know what they are buying, as it answers the purpose very well, and is often sold for hair.

The gathering of pecans in western Texas during the fall and winter seasons often pays the poor man handsomely. Men with their families, children and all, turn out and gather hundreds of bushels for which they get from two to three dollars per bushel. Many a poor man and family have got their start in this way in Texas, and become wealthy stock-growers and farmers.

I have before stated that the forests of this country are tangled with grape-vines, which yield abundantly of [illegible]. There are those here who are converting these grapes into money, in the way of wines and brandies, any amount of which can be made, and the grapes are free to all.

There is no large amount of hedging done in western Texas. Unsuccessful attempts have been made at hedging, as, many of those who have contracted for the growing of hedges have abandoned their work and left it for others to complete. The reason of this, I suppose, has principally been the want of a knowledge of our climate and the soil, which would undoubtedly have enabled the contractors to complete their contracts, as those who have continued the work, I learn, have made out first-rate for themselves and have succeeded to the satisfaction of the planters and stock-growers for whom the hedging is done. Of course, the Osage orange is principally used, and is no doubt the best plant in America for this purpose. There are hundreds of stock-growers and planters in western Texas who would contract, or else build their own hedges, than contract for the making of them, provided they could save expense by so doing, which, probably, they could by employing men who understand the business. There are men in the northern and western states who could find employment here at this business, and I presume there are those who could make money at the setting and starting of hedges until a year or two old, or until a complete stand is insured and sufficiently grown to be given over to less experienced hands to work and manage. Scores of men in this country have attempted to make fences of this kind and have failed for the want of experienced help and management. That fine hedges can be made here, is a certainty; for I have seen here and there through the country, short pieces of fence of this kind that was as good as need be for any purpose. In fact, I have seen short pieces of hedgerow that grew up and made a good fence in the open prairie, without any attention after being set, and poorly cultivated and trimmed only two seasons, and then left for thousands of cattle to tramp and interfere with, if they wanted dispersed, every day. And, again, I have seen good, well-grown hedgerows from other kinds of plants in this country; but I am sure the Osage, with good management, is much superior to anything that can be used in the country for the purpose of hedging. Young men who understand the setting, pruning, and correct management of hedges, would go to Texas and soon accumulate enough to start the stock business.

The producing of honey can nowhere be made more profitable than in western Texas, from the fact, that bees can work almost the whole year, and that the prairies and forests are covered in such profusion with flowers and blossoms, and the different material from which they manufacture their honey. They are not liable to freeze here, and are perfectly secure from all the dangers and difficulties of winter in colder countries. It is said that bees do not do so well here when kept in the open prairies as when kept near the bottoms along the rivers, under the prairie forests, where the winds do not interfere with their flight to and from their honey flowers, or the material from which they extract the sweet. If these men whom I have known at this business in other parts, were here, taking one half their accustomed pains at the business, they could soon make money enough to enter largely into the stock business. The poor man, without a dollar, can secure bees from the forests and fill as many hives as he pleases; and a person with a little spare means could build those doubled bee-houses which have long since proved so fine and profitable, and which prevent the trouble and losses from swarming.

The writer is himself a poor man, and, as few as his virtues may be, he can say that he has been good to the poor; and when I tell him that I have been in all the grand divisions of the globe but one, and have seen much of the world, and that western Texas is the finest and most promising country of any I have seen for the poor man, I am not trying to deceive him. When I tell him of a country where a few square yards of strong cloth will make him a house that will do him until he can make something to enable him to erect a better one; of a country where he can pasture his cow, his sheep, his horse, his hogs, etc., all for nothing; where snow never comes; where the soil never freezes; where the man who has the least bit of money-making tact is almost sure to get rich, or become independent; in short, of a country where he can live and ask but little or no odds of those who gripe their money; where he can shoulder his gun and go forth with a certainty of returning with meat for his family; where the beauteous rays of the sun, moon and stars are cheering to his heart, and afford him a greater delight than do the cart-wheel dollars give to the sordid and miserly man; where he can contemplate the beauties and bounties of nature with enjoyment, regardless of the dazzle and grandeur of fashionable life and empty show; and where, as I have before said a man can be a man—not a dog; I say, when I tell the poor man all this, and that this is the place to live, I know he will not think that I am trying to deceive him. When I tell him that I have swung the ax, the cradle, the scythe, the fork, the hoe, the spade, and have stood by the plow, and have toiled in the field year after year; have clipped the fleece from thousands of the wooly tribe, and have done almost everything that the laboring man does in northern countries—he will admit that I ought to know what is good for the poor man; that I ought to be a competent judge of a country's advantages and suitableness for him; that I ought to feel an interest in his well-doing, since I have followed and know so well his task—since I have realized and know so well the stiffened joints that sometimes almost refuse to move when he rises at the break of day to return to the field to work on and lend his mite to the production of that which clothes and feeds the rich, which warms and nourishes the sick, and showers such blessedness upon man. Yes, he will admit that I ought to know all this, and undoubtedly do know it, and am telling the truth. So, farewell poor man! with these, and a thousand other things I might tell you, until I meet you in western Texas. But you may say hold, for a moment, and tell us why you are so poor, after being so long in this fine country, where you say it is so easy to become rich. This you have a right to ask, and it is my duty to answer you, which I can do in a few words. The writer happens to be one of those whose disposition it was to climb Fortune's ladder by skipping too many rounds for the purpose of going too rapidly up, and, consequently, losing his hold, came prostrate to the ground. And when coming to Texas, after trying his fortune in different parts of the world, instead of improving little advantages that lay before him, instead of buying a few cattle, a small flock of sheep, or something of the kind, and going gradually but surely up, he misplaced his confidence and undertook again to climb the quick way to a fortune, and this time the ladder, whose ascent he would have handsomely made, proved deceitful and rotten. My readers may not all understand this, but there are, perhaps, a few who will, and that will answer the purpose. When arriving in Texas the new-comer should not be discouraged, and suffer himself to think that there is nothing here that he can do. He must remember that he is from the same country where old Texans came from, and he must pitch in at the best thing that offers. Let Texans know that he is neither "pepper nor salt," "sponge-cake or dough," but rough and ready for the work of the country. Pitch in at any price, for awhile, and let 'em know what you are good for, and you will soon be all right.

TEACHERS IN SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, MINISTERS, ETC.

Common school teaching, in western Texas, is that to which I would call the attention of the poor man of education. The recent census of Texas shows a population of nearly half a million of people. Consequently the pupilage of the state is large and rapidly increasing, which makes it an inviting country to the teacher—a broad, expanding field for this fraternity. The school teacher can here put his earnings into stock, and have it attended to as well as though he gave it his personal attention; and during vacation he can ride among it and satisfy himself in regard to the business and management of his cattle, sheep, or whatever kind of stock he may have his money invested in. By laying out his surplus money in this way, he would soon have an income from his cattle that would equal his salary for teaching; and before many years, with prudent management, he could take up his abode in some good grass region, with his hundreds, and possibly thousands of cattle around him.

I can imagine nothing more encouraging to the patient and perplexed school teacher, than to have an opportunity of investing his little surplus or savings in a way that it shall be rapidly compounding, or in a way to get the free use of a great natural pasture, upon which the increase of his stock will carry him on to wealth.

Let me ask the distant teacher how he would like to have his brand upon cattle that are grazing on the commons—and all about him, the keeping of which might not cost him a cent, and the marking and herding of the increase of which he could pay for by the head, or give a portion of it for the branding, etc.—among which he might ride at leisure times upon his pony that might always be close by, staked out, or hoppled upon grass near the school-house. All this the teacher realizes in this country, and the stock-boys are glad to see him start his fortune and reap the benefits of the yielding earth in common with them. It is not unusual here to see a half-dozen or more horses staked upon grass near the school-house; and what is more encouraging and satisfactory to the friends of education than to see these horses, coming from the outskirts of the district, loaded down with healthy and happy children, on the way to school.

If the teacher prefers it, his investment might be in a flock of sheep, or a herd of mares, to be kept by some one not far from his place of teaching. In several instances I have known this course to be pursued by teachers, who would at times ride with the stock-boys, help drive and brand, and become acquainted with the business. And I presume, should I make a little inquiry, I could find out many here with fine

properties who, in the commencement, pursued t
same course.

It is not long since I knew two young men, brothe
to purchase five hundred head of cattle, paying a p
tion down and depending upon their ability to
and the increase they might have the next yea
pay their notes for the balance.

Of course there are many high schools in Tex
good teachers of which are appreciated and well r
warded, and there is a disposition in the south to dep
rely upon itself for the education of its chil
They prefer having schools near home rather tha
compelled to send their sons and daughters north
an education. These reasons for this are many a
sound, and this determination will be the origi
many private common and high schools and colle
which, of course, will multiply the demand for teach
of all kinds. Teachers of music can nowhere do b
ter than here. Ornamental education of the diffe
kinds is sought and well paid for in this country.

The school fund of Texas is very large, and th
is always a great surplus for educational purpose
the treasury of the state. Our system of school
very popular, and we boast of affording supe
means of education to the many. In fact, our sc
system is claimed to be a model after, and an impro
ment upon, the school systems of the older st
This, I suppose, arises from there being people
Texas from all the different sections of the Union,
the manifest disposition to introduce here anyth
that is good from any of the older states. The v
of New England is found in Texas.

It is needless to say that the churches and relig
societies in Texas exercise a powerful influence
the morals of the country and lead many into the
bonds of the Christian religion. Churches and p

of worship are quite numerous and rapidly increasing, and our clergy are proud of their calling and labor devoutly and with zeal in their cause. Our benevolent societies and institutions speak well for the hearts of our people.

It is not unusual to see the brand and mark of our ministers upon the cattle of our prairies, and many of them have fine stocks of different kind of animals which have frequently accumulated from little beginnings. The generous stock-boy sometimes, by way of compliment and as a commendable act, puts his minister's mark and brand upon one of his heifer calves. Of course all would look out for the minister's cattle; and, as he is so generously remembered, his stock is ever on the increase, and as a natural consequence becomes large and valuable, the proceeds of which afford him an easy support for his family and enables him to educate his children as he would wish to at home or abroad. One minister I know who is not only the shepherd of his flock in church, but the shepherd of his flock on the prairie—a beautiful flock of the woolly tribe. Often when working with a crowd of stock-boys I have known some one or more of them to brand all the motherless calves they might find on the prairie, and now and then a yearling that had left its mother, to some little orphan girl or boy.

I have nowhere mentioned that when a stock of cattle is neglected, and the calves get to be yearlings and leave their mothers before being branded, they are liable to be taken up and branded by any stock-grower who may find them. This is perfectly right and will make stock-growers look after their business in time.

KINDS OF LABOR IN [illegible].

From the beginning of this work it has been the writer's intention to note down every description of

labor for which there is a demand in western Tex
also all the different vocations and branches of bu
ness in which men are engaged, but the want of sp
and time and the writer's neglect to make a mem
randum of his observations, from time to time, u
these points renders it quite impossible for him to
so. As a general thing the different branches of b
iness of a country indicate the kinds of labor want
and by reading this work the laborer of any k
would be pretty well qualified to judge for him
whether western Texas is the place for him or
even though I should say nothing more upon the s
ject. I will, however, after adding several branc
of business to those already mentioned, put down s
eral kinds of labor for which it occurs to me there
a good demand in western Texas. Lumbermen w
portable saw-mills could doubtless do better than in
timbered sections of the country; good hotels
boarding houses do remarkably well here; g
thorough farming, independent of the stock busi
pays exceedingly well—while any loose farming
not pay, for in this case thrifty weeds are sure to
the field. The livery business nowhere does b
than in Texas—the prairie grass is free to the liv
man, which he cuts here merely for the price of cu
and drawing to his stable. The sale of north
wagons and carriages of all kinds is very exten
It is enough to say that the pursuits of the towns
erally of any civilized country, such as butcher
draying, blacksmithing and general mechanical b
ness, pay well here. Laboring men about our
towns and ranchos, generally, get good pay for
services. Stage-drivers get from $30 to $50
month, and many of them soon get into the st
business or become speculators in horses, mules,
Horse, mule and ox-teamsters get from $20 to $3

month, and can accumulate by being economical and investing their savings in stock of some kind. Stock-drivers get from $20 to $40 per month, and soon begin to accumulate property in the way of stock, etc. Beef-buyers and drivers get from $40 to $100 per month, and with economy and good management can soon get rich. Northern and European sheepherders or shepherds get from $15 to $30 per month, and can get ahead by putting their savings in sheep. Sheep-shearers get from four to six cents per head for shearing. Managers of large flocks of sheep get from $50 to $100 per month, and can get rich by investing their surplus means in sheep. Plantation overseers get from $500 to $1,000 per year, and many of them work their way up in the world. Clerks in mercantile and other establishments get from $250 to $1,200 per year. Laborers at general farming get from $15 to $20 per month. Ditching is done by the rod and pays the laborer well. There is a great want of servant girls in western Texas, and any number of good servant girls could get good situations at fine prices.

In conclusion, thousands of apt and handy mechanical and general laborers could find enough to do in Texas and would find it profitable to go there. Although railroads have progressed rather slowly thus far in western Texas, they are sure to be built and through our country in all directions; and this will create a renewed demand for labor of all kinds. The constant emigration of wealthy and enterprising people is sure to bring about the immediate construction of railroads, which will open a wide field for all kinds of business and labor. It is thought by many intelligent men that a railroad reaching the Pacific will some day have an eastern terminus on the gulf coast of Texas. It would seem that such might be the case.

Indians, snakes, poisonous insects and musquitos are supposed by some in the north to be the great plagues of Texas. Along the bordering settlements of Texas, and along the Indian reservations. But new settlers seldom go where they would be likely to be disturbed by them. In all the writer's travels, for nearly six years in Texas he has never seen an Indian here unless it was one who passed for a Mexican. The apprehension in regard to Indians is entirely wrong. They are only troublesome at those points where new-comers would not be likely to settle. Snakes and poisonous insects are quite plentiful in parts of western Texas; but seldom does anybody or receive any harm, but they are dangerous. They decrease, and in time disappear, and they give way to civilization. During the writer's six years residence and travels in western Texas he has not heard of a single instance of harm by a snake or a poisonous insect. That they do bite and that some of them are deadly poisonous, without timely relief, I suppose is certain. But men are so seldom bitten by them, and they so seldom die when bitten, that I can see no good reason why there should be so much more made about them. The people of Texas think no more of snakes and insects and give themselves no more concern about them than do the people of other countries. I suppose the awful reports that abound from Texas about them are from new-comers, and women principally, who no doubt have a natural horror for and loathe the snake or poisonous insect, as they picture them by numbers under their steps or in some way in their imagination ever and around their heads. Musquitoes along the coast of Texas and as far back as the level country extends, are at times quite plentiful and to new-comers somewhat annoying. But they too give way to civilization; as the country is settled and is trampled by stock they diminish in number.

The settler who locates upon an elevated dry spot, at a reasonable distance from ponds of water or a dense forest, need never be troubled with mosquitoes about his dwelling or anywhere within its vicinity, if he has stock around him to eat down the grass and tramp the soil.

HARD TIMES AND MONEY MATTERS.

It is an interesting fact that what is known in other states as hard times is seldom known in Texas. To be sure, some get cramped in business, but it is from their own bad management or some local cause, and not from a general stagnation in the business of the country. Although Texas imports largely of the necessities that she will eventually export, which must necessarily cause a drain upon the country, yet money seems always to be plenty and business uniformly active. I might give some of the reasons for this, but it is enough that it is so.

TEXAS ALMANAC.

Persons wishing to know more of western Texas than this work affords them, can, by addressing Mr. Richardson, of the Galveston News, Galveston, Texas, obtain an annual statistical and general history of the state, called the "Texas Almanac," together with a cheap map of the state. This almanac gives a description of every county in the state, stating its agricultural capacity, and price of lands, the amount, quality and kind of stock raised in each county, the condition of schools, churches, railroads, and, in fact, a large amount of useful information pertaining to the state and its prospects. For general and current information in regard to Texas, no one would do better than send for the Texas Almanac, which is issued at the beginning of every year, and should be in the hands of every one who thinks of going to Texas, or wants reliable information in regard to it.

WHO AND HOW TO GO TO WESTERN TEXAS.

To make a comfortable and respectable home in western Texas, there is nothing like as much required as in the north. A hundred and one things are used, in doors and out of the north, that are not really needed here. [illegible] part of the world, [illegible] should take such only of their [illegible] and [illegible] they may [illegible] It does not pay to move old, common furniture, hardware, and the like, so far. So I would say to those who go to Texas, [illegible] buying in Texas, when you find what you really need there. I do not mean by this that you should leave all your woolens and warm clothes behind, or your nice, nearly new [illegible] but simply that you should not take such [illegible] half [illegible] Convert what you can [illegible] things you will not need in Texas, bring it in your pocket, and invest it in stock and lands here. There are a plenty of families in the north who have enough about them, that they would not need in Texas, which, if sold, would buy cattle, horses, sheep, and stock of some kind, enough to give a [illegible] and [illegible] start in the world. There are thousands of families in the north whose circumstances are embarrassed, and who are [illegible] property, in and about their [illegible] including silver, China ware, [illegible] and above what should be needed in Texas, if turned into cash, would buy in this country a beautiful flock of sheep, a fine tract of land, and erect a comfortable dwelling upon it.

Think of the change, you who feel pinched and poor, yet with enough around you more than you need, which, if turned into money, would make you rich, in the most delightful climate and beautiful country. How many fathers there are, who, if they knew how far their little properties would go in Texas, would sell out and find their way here immediately: how many there are who will jog along the path of life, and leave their children but little or nothing, while others will go to western Texas, invest the little they have and [illegible] of years, and leave all their children a fine property. Could the sons and daughters of many a family in those cold and snowy regions, only know how they would be delighted here upon the evergreen soil of Texas, and how wealthy they might get here, they would give the father no peace until he should "pull up stakes" and start for the Lone Star land.

I said this was a good country for the man who would economize, or who is unable to keep pace with the prodigality of the times where he may be living. Are you the man whose property is perishing under the extravagance of empty show, and whose course must be changed in order to avoid the unreasonable demands of insatiable and unfeeling fashion, and its ultimate disastrous effects? To be plain, are you the man who must get away from where you are, in order to curtail your expenses and place your sinking means in some country where they will afford you a better income, and enable you to meet the necessities and requirements of a large and growing family, without being constantly harassed by creditors, with the prospect of finally surrendering your all in keeping up approminence in the circle in which your family is moving? If so, sell out, settle up and [illegible] you can and come to western Texas. You can here provide yourself with the best of lands, for a trifling amount, and build you a spacious and comfortable dwelling and all necessary improvements, with but a small outlay of money, and be as free from the follies and crimes of fashionable life as you please; and yet you need not be entirely excluded and shut out from good society, unless in your [illegible] you prefer so to be. By looking through this country, the man who is in pursuit of a home, whether [illegible] merchant, or mechanic, can find the place that would suit his particular object in preference to any other, and look for that which no new country ever affords. The farmer or stock-grazier can find a region that is good for the raising of cattle, horses, sheep, and hogs, without labor and outlay, if he prefers not, everything for them to subsist upon, that is good for raising wheat, corn, and almost every vegetable that grows, various delicious fruits, which need not be far away from a good school. But on account of [illegible], religious and other matters to which I shall now devote a few pages, I shall not here suggest anything and nothing in western Texas that I believe will make the foreigner overjoyed with the country, and remain most gloriously for himself and posterity.

There is one dissatisfaction existing in new countries to which I would call the particular attention of the emigrant, and that is the impression that friends are to be found in distant lands to fill the places of those of early life. I care not how beautiful the country, or what advantages it may offer to the settler, or what kind of people and society he may there find, he will not be as well satisfied with and as well contented in such country, by leaving all his relations and friends of early life behind, as he would be if more or less of such friends or relatives were dwelling with him. A person may start out into the world alone, and not feel his separation from youthful friends so much when [illegible] some day [illegible] he becomes attached in early life [illegible] of the future. Therefore [illegible] with his family, [illegible] in some new country among strangers, [illegible] he is too [illegible] a loss of that which he can [illegible] and years may go by and he may return to the home of his birth, [illegible] exchange for that of his adoption, yet he asks, where are the friends of my early days, with whom I used to sport and play? [illegible] intelligent girls, in whose company I once loved to be? where the good old [illegible] of my neighborhood? where the friends of my youth, those friends of my happy days, such as I have never since found, the loss of whom has left a vacancy in my heart [illegible] my life? How often has this [illegible] O for one good old-fashioned [illegible]! Therefore, I would [illegible] parents to [illegible] of endearment [illegible] his heart, and all his relatives and friends of old, [illegible] up an abode in a different country among strangers. Paradise itself, [illegible] could not withstand the [illegible] by the thoughts of leaving all the friends of early life, to accept an abode even in that more favored spot. Judging the [illegible] in this respect by my own, I am always glad to see parties of [illegible] linked together not only by feelings of [illegible] and dependence upon each other, but by feelings, if possible, of solid friendship and kindred love. Such kind of [illegible] which [illegible] relate, that he has left everything that was dear to him; [illegible] the wide [illegible] an old [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] A person of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] always [illegible] [illegible] might [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the lonely emigrant or family, who settles in a distant country [illegible] their complete separation from relatives and friends of early life.

There is something of still greater [illegible], that the lonely emigrant [illegible] that is a way to educate his children properly, and give them [illegible] and [illegible] and in [illegible] the [illegible] as possible, for the purpose of [illegible] and having [illegible] for their stock; [illegible] per- haps [illegible] by their [illegible] relations, friends, old acquaintances, and even those who [illegible] the same [illegible] of any country [illegible] can not be settled without view to neighbourhood, schools, [illegible] religious advantages, and many other [illegible] And it is well known that, when people settle in this way, those feelings that [illegible] between them become [illegible], and they learn to regard each other are brothers, and their intimacy is a source of [illegible] happiness to them as they could not have attained by settling separately and among strangers. I would not be understood that the [illegible] of men and families who go together into a new country, are [illegible]; [illegible] they go without a peculiar [illegible] happiness, for which they may ever after look in vain. I know the world is full of separation, [illegible], and steadfast friendships [illegible], yet this, [illegible] of the [illegible] by the [illegible] of the [illegible], and all, [illegible] what it [illegible] of [illegible].

I have noticed that settling among strangers is apt to create an indifference in regard to the education of children. Parents are too apt to say that "My children are not going to [illegible] among strangers, and [illegible] children. I will wait for a better opportunity." And from the simple fact of being among strangers, the minds of children are neglected during that period of their lives when all possible attention should be given to their improvement.

For these and many other reasons I am rather in strongly in favor of [illegible] neighborhood settlements. Certain it is that when people of like [illegible] of country [illegible] go from [illegible] country and [illegible] they are better [illegible] to [illegible] and understand the [illegible] of each country [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] of things would be [illegible] with that which [illegible], as [illegible] in [illegible] too much like [illegible]. Therefore come not alone but bring with you more or less of your old friends and neighbors.

Texas will prove to you [illegible] that paradise of [illegible] as would any country in the wide world. [illegible] of the past and [illegible] things [illegible] your judgment and ability [illegible] your present [illegible] the [illegible] body and you [illegible],

[illegible]

[illegible] should be filled up by people of [illegible] country, but that a few [illegible] families, or people from the same section, of the same conditions of life, would be happier [illegible] to each other than among strangers in a new country. I said that people in Texas are inclined to [illegible] away from each other. This is the case in a great [illegible] with the stock-growers of western Texas, and the reason for their so doing [illegible] their separation from their friends of old [illegible] dignity and [illegible] to society, is that their minds are [illegible] with the [illegible] of the country, that they are constantly [illegible] by [illegible] from [illegible] other peoples' [illegible] of the [illegible] only [illegible] of it [illegible] and [illegible] where nothing but the Indian, wild [illegible] and the life have [illegible] or [illegible] where they can [illegible] little as possible to do, and [illegible] their duty to their children [illegible] that belongs to [illegible] To [illegible] and go [illegible] trips [illegible] the purpose of [illegible] their in[illegible] perhaps [illegible] three or four [illegible] early, such as it is, and the idleness of the year is too often most wofully squandered or unprofitably passed away.

I would not have the reader understand that these remarks set forth the habits and condition of all stock-growing colonists in western Texas, but that there is too great a disposition among the stock-growers to scatter far away from each other, which deprives them of the advantages of society and schools, the cause of which, to a great extent, is the want of intimate acquaintance, early associations, and the peculiarities of [illegible] raising.

There are a plenty of stock-growers in western Texas, living some distance from a neighborhood or school, who mount their children upon horses, and they gallop away to school; but some are too indifferent in regard to schooling for this, and others live too far away to send their children to school. Many send their children to towns to board and attend school, or to a boarding-school; but this occurs too often after their younger days are neglected.

Now I will suggest a way of emigrating to western Texas, that would result most gloriously to the settler and his posterity; and I can see no reason why it should not be practicable. If I were a resident of an old, densely-populated country, where perhaps I could find nothing profitable for me to do, and should take it into my head to go to western Texas, and should be pleased with it, and prefer to make it my home, what objection could there be to my gathering and interesting with me, if possible, a half dozen or more of my former friends, for the purpose of settling in that fine country, in a way to be social and convenient; and for our convenience and benefit, what could be more becoming than to interest with us several mechanics of different kinds, say a blacksmith, shoemaker, tinner; gunsmith, wagon-maker, cooper, [illegible], tailor, mill-wright, carpenter, and possibly other mechanics; a merchant and physician, a surveyor, a good schoolmaster, a printer, and a minister of the Gospel, and as many other laboring men as the company might see fit to select or take along? And after getting together and [illegible] the right kind of [illegible] [illegible] should there be found a want of funds to enable the company to go through, how would it do for the managers of such company to [illegible] to some [illegible] of [illegible] a number of respectable citizens and families [of [illegible] it [illegible] determined to go in a company to western Texas, for the purpose of settling there as farmers, [illegible], mechanics, [illegible], to improve the country and be useful [illegible] and community; but there are poor people in the company, and there is such want of means [illegible] go all together, and [illegible] for a way to get along and be [illegible], and as such their managers are authorized and instructed to request you to address the people of ———, on the subject of emigration, for the purpose of forwarding this work. Could you make it convenient to [illegible], with your influence and talent, the people of ——— in this subject, and let this community [illegible] their obligation and gratitude to you for having rendered the assistance they so much needed, [illegible]

Could not something of this kind be done, and collections made, as in this or a similar way, with perfect propriety, to enable poor people to emigrate with those who are [illegible]? Would not this be the way to advance the work of civilization; to carry light to benighted [illegible]? Would it not be somewhat in imitation of the great Austins, the colonizers and fathers of Texas? Were the noble Austins the last of old Connecticut's sons who will brave the dangers of the frontier and open up new fields of civilization, and cast out the wilderness of waste? Would not a man of mind be proud to lend his voice for such a cause? Would not his soul fill with enthusiasm when considering such a subject? Would not the people of any community be eager to listen to an able speech and orator upon such an occasion? and would they take a greater or a deeper interest in the hearing of such an address? Methinks I hear the voice of an Everett, eloquently discoursing upon the surpassing importance of this great undertaking, wishing the well of the country, and guidance through the emigrant upon his journey. Methinks I hear the voice of a great and wise man, counseling this laudable scheme of emigration. Methinks I see a group of intelligent men earnestly considering the prospects of western Texas and adjacent Mexico, and determined to come and live in those ever-smiling and happy regions. The spirit of a Washington pervades our whole country, and the same God that watched over the battles that won the liberties of America, is still watching over this expanding confederacy, and it is to be hoped will never abandon it to its unhappy fate.

A very good way for poor people to go to Texas, is to get in with those who are driving stock there, either by land or water. Go along and help drive or attend to stock, and so work your way to the country. There are many going in this way.

DIFFERENT ROUTES TO TEXAS.

Those who go to Texas from the northern states, generally go by the way of New Orleans, and across the gulf of Mexico, or by Red River to Shreveport, or some point on that river, where they leave it and cross the country by land, both of which routes to Texas are much traveled. There are different routes for those who go from the north, east, and west. There is a regular line of packets running between Boston and Galveston, which affords a quick, comfortable, and reasonable passage. There is also a good line of packet ships from New York to the same; and there is regular steamship communication between Galveston and the ports of western Texas, [illegible] or Lavaca, and Brownsville. There is also a regular line of the smaller class of ships [illegible], between New York, [illegible] and [illegible]. These [illegible] Boston and New York and [illegible] to Galveston and western Texas. There is a quick steamship and railroad route [illegible] and New Orleans. Many southern people come [illegible], and many who [illegible] the southern route by way of Washington, [illegible] to New Orleans, and across the gulf. The last two routes are principally for passengers, and not so much for freight and baggage. Others go the western route and down the Mississippi river, either to New Orleans or the mouth of Red river, and thence by [illegible]. The price of passage from Cairo and St. Louis to New Orleans, is from twelve to thirty dollars, according to circumstances. The distance from Cairo to New Orleans is about a thousand miles. The price of passage across the gulf, by steamship, from New Orleans to Galveston, is invariably fifteen dollars, and twenty dollars to Powder Horn or Indianola, and I think about twenty-five dollars to [illegible].

There are two routes from New Orleans to the ports of Galveston and Indianola—the inside and the outside route. The inside route takes you over about seventy miles of railroad, extending from New Orleans to Berwick bay, thence by steamship across the gulf. The outside route is performed entirely by steamships, down the Mississippi river to its mouth, and thence across the gulf. Some prefer one route, and some the other. The price of passage over either is the same. There is seasickness by the outside route, and the ships are larger than those of the inside route. The Berwick bay or inside route is generally known to be the quickest. It will not be long before the Berwick bay railroad will be extended on to Galveston and central Texas.

Those who cross the Mississippi river at St. Louis, above or below, and go by land to Texas, I am unable to direct further than to say that there are good crossings at all the large rivers, and good roads are to be found, of which [illegible] along the Mississippi river. There are regular thoroughfares across Missouri, Arkansas and the Indian territory, to Texas, which are perfectly safe, and along which animals get all the grazing they need, free of expense. There are many going these overland routes on through northern to western and southern Texas. People going these routes with wagons and horses, or oxen, can lay in and economically buy provisions, camp out, and travel very cheap. Sheep and all kinds of stock, I learn, are being largely driven across to Texas from the western states. The higher up the route the better it is considered for stock-driving, as grass is more plentiful, there is less timber, fewer settlements, and the crossings of rivers are more shallow and easily got over. The roads higher up the country are said to be better. Some, who drive cattle from Texas north, go entirely around Missouri, by going through the Indian territory, Kansas, the corner of Nebraska, into Iowa, and so on. Some drovers cut across the upper or northern portion of Missouri.

It is said that forty thousand sheep, on their way to

Texas, passed through [illegible] town last year (18[illegible]), on some of these [illegible] roads. Probably not less than a hundred thousand sheep will be taken into Texas, from [illegible] points north of Texas, this year ([illegible]). [illegible] for them. [illegible] and sheep [illegible] in 18[illegible]; but [illegible]

Many [illegible] are now wending their way to western Texas. The man who can take a [illegible] wagon, and a [illegible] mix [illegible] the [illegible] a [illegible] of but little means could, if he chose, move his family in this way, and drive his sheep along with but [illegible] additional expense. [illegible] all that a small family would require, at first, to keep house with in western Texas, or that portion of it where snow is seldom or never seen; where cellars, filled with vegetables for the winter, are not required; where heavy [illegible] are [illegible] required; where a [illegible] will do until a better one, or a good house, can be built.

In going there [illegible] towards western Texas, a person may pass through the whole region of the country, and [illegible] with northern Texas, and [illegible] before reaching their destination.

HOW TO FIND A LOCATION.

When arriving in western Texas from across the gulf of Mexico, or any point at sea, unless a person may have friends in the country and knows to what point in the interior he is going, the questions will naturally arise with him: "What shall I do? Where shall I go to find a location? How am I to satisfy myself in regard to this country? And, possibly, he may ask where can I locate with my family that they may be comfortable and yet not be a heavy expense upon me, without any expense in exploring the country to find what may prove to be a desirable location, for my business and my future abode, where I could make a good living and should be satisfied to live?" A family or a number of families arriving upon the coast of Texas in this way, to accomplish these objects in a judicious and an economical manner should, if their intention is not to live upon the coast, go a little into the interior, where the surrounding country is rolling and dry, where there is plenty of shade, wood and water, and after camping upon some pleasant stream, in a way to get along comfortably, with perhaps no more than one-fourth the expense of boarding at a hotel. I say after accomplishing this in a judicious way, the gentlemen of the families or such of them as may be best qualified and are agreed upon for the purpose, after securing good, substantial and gentle ponies, saddles and traveling equipage, coffee and coffee-pots, tin-cups, sugar, dried meat, bacon, hard biscuit or flour, and possibly a Mexican who can talk your language, to pack and lead your pack mule or horse, to look after camping fixtures generally, and do the cooking—I say again, after the first is accomplished and the last secured, the gentlemen agreed upon, with a copy of this work in their pockets and a memorandum of what has been learned at hand, should start out and give the country a good looking over.

Those who intend wool-growing as their business should, of course, go to the sheep-raising sections, examine the ranges and different flocks of sheep, talk with shepherds and proprietors, and be not afraid to push a little farther on; go up this creek, cross over and down that creek, make all necessary inquiry, and when a good-looking unoccupied range is found, where lands are for sale, satisfy yourselves in regard to its suitableness for your purpose, who has the title, for the owner may live hundreds of miles away; learn as much of the title as possible, and be careful that you are not imposed upon by those who would not [illegible] buy as well as those who might be anxious to sell. Continue your search in this way until you have found the place you want, and then either buy, lease, contract or make arrangements for a home upon it according to circumstances as I have repeatedly directed.

In looking out for ranges of any kind, whether for cattle, horses or sheep, a good hog-range will never come amiss. But if cheapness is the principal thing in view, the [illegible] claim to that of hogs or anything else. If a range for all kinds of stock is desired, a small portion of the range at least should be quite rolling and dry. This, of course, should be for the sheep. For horses the country must be moderately rolling, and if it is hilly and mountainous so much the better. For cattle, in Texas cattle at least, [illegible]. I believe the stock-growers of western Texas, who make the most money at the cattle business, have their stock upon ranges near to the coast. But I would say to those who take Durham stock or northern cattle to Texas, not to attempt to keep them too near the coast on account of occasional and unexpected [illegible].

Now, if the reader will carefully observe what I have said throughout this work, although some of it may seem of but little consequence, he will, if he settles in western Texas, be able to steer clear of many [illegible] bad bargains and blunders that he might otherwise make.

There is one thing in regard to building spots, in the locations of Texas to which I would call particular attention. When I speak of lowlands I do not wish to be understood as meaning wet or swampy lands, but the lands along the coast which are generally wide open prairie, and inclined to be low, but here and there slightly [illegible] considerably rolling, also at greater or less distances, divided with streams and rivers, along which there is generally more or less timber. Now this section along the coast, which is an immense extent of country, has been for years considered, by many, the poorest portion of the state, unless we except also the desolate plains in the far west. But this is a mistake. These lowlands will yet be found the most valuable in the state. I have no room to give my reasons why, but it is enough to say that they are rich, inexhaustibly rich, and are sure in time to be appreciated. What I am now at is this: When a person locates himself upon these coast lands he should aim to secure a building spot that is somewhat sloping or rolling, and where if possible the sea-breeze can have a fair sweep—not behind a thicket of timber and underbrush, but an open spot where the water will readily run off. I do not mean by this a *hill* but a sloping or rolling spot. If these directions are observed and cistern water used, after one or two year's occupation and acclimation is experienced, sickness and mosquitoes will be strangers to your home and surroundings. This subject of finding a location in western Texas, if rightly treated, would be very lengthy; I will, therefore, drop it with the few suggestions I have made and return to the camp of the families of those who went in pursuit of a place for a future home.

EMIGRANTS' CAMP.

[illegible] with [illegible], blocks, or whatever may be at hand; mothers and daughters, little children, and perhaps fathers and young men. They sit [illegible] and talk of their recent [illegible] and of [illegible] the [illegible] of the party had returned from [illegible] whence they brought [illegible]. The young [illegible] through [illegible] in the [illegible] like [illegible] dexterously [illegible] back. The whip [illegible] fell [illegible] ground, and the happy crowd with shouts of joy gathered about. With a [illegible] look [illegible] begged for mercy—but, alas, [illegible] and with convulsive [illegible] your [illegible] dear [illegible] give them chase [illegible] They [illegible] brought some of [illegible] the ground. [illegible] the talk goes on [illegible] prepared and the [illegible] It is agreed that [illegible] their new country [illegible] future. Days and weeks go by, and [illegible] begins to seem like [illegible] they [illegible] free from the restraints of artificial life, and are likely to do as they please. Nature becomes [illegible] their study and life [illegible] and free. [illegible] want to explore [illegible] in pursuit of [illegible] tlement having returned, they soon strike camp and start off for the camp of their future abode. There I will leave them, [illegible] to make their settlement and shed its influence [illegible], perhaps for the good of the neighborhood.

SLAVERY.

Although I have seen a great deal of slavery as it exists in the south, I have not acquired that practical knowledge of it that I might have desired. Much of my time in Canada has been spent with that class of people [illegible] of their settlement all, and in sections where slavery is not considered profitable. But from the acquaintance I have with this institution, I should say let it alone. Were it abolished entirely, in the opinion of the writer, labor in the United States would find its true level. It is easy enough to talk about the evils of slavery, and to agitate with a view to its abolishment, and were there but a few thousand slaves in the country they could be set free without great calamity [illegible] from it. But when we talk about setting the millions of negroes in the south free, it is time we are talking about ruining the south, and producing a great national calamity. What could be done with the slaves if liberated? Should they be left to work as free laborers in the south? Let me say I am of this opinion that when I was travelling, not long after the liberation of the slaves at Cape Colony, the writer put up at a hotel kept by an intelligent English lady who had a great deal of difficulty to get along with her household affairs in consequence of her slaves having been set free.

She said that since the slaves of the colony had been liberated there was no dependence to be placed in them, that they were [illegible], and would not work enough to keep from starving, and only at such times as they pleased. Sometimes the lady and her daughters would do the work of their large house, and again they would hire [illegible] and get along very well until the hireling would get drunk, or take a notion to lounge in the street. I saw a plenty of idle ones in gangs of five, ten, fifteen, and twenty, all [illegible] impudent [illegible].

The lady told me that a farmer of her acquaintance, after giving up his slaves, attempted to hire them, and get along as formerly. When his crop of corn was ripe, he went for his help, and found two of his men [illegible] up with a *jug* of whisky. He made known his errand, and their answer was that they did not want to work; but after long persuasion and extravagant offers, they finally agreed to come and cut his [illegible] but after they had [illegible] all the [illegible] off the tree, and drank up that jug of whisky.

What an [illegible] whisky [illegible] it would make of the south [illegible] most beautiful cotton fields, if her slaves were liberated and left free in the country.

Now let us suppose that the slaves of the south were set free and sent away to take care of themselves. My father once had a negro; they called him Jack. When sent out for a basket of chips, he would fall asleep while picking them up; when climbing a fence, he would sometimes get on the top, go to sleep and fall down. Jack wasn't profitable without a whip behind him, and he wasn't nigger enough to pay for an overseer; and for this reason he was either given away, or sent off to shirk for himself. At all events, the story runs that he went to riding horse on the canal—got independent in—and drowned, of course. Now, all the great mass of negroes in the south are [illegible] to shift for themselves, in any part of the world, would they not fall into the [illegible], or what would be equally [illegible] while picking up the [illegible]! If slavery [illegible] labor, be it [illegible] human beings; why [illegible] upon the world [illegible]! Go to the cotton and sugar fields of the South and look about you, ask yourselves [illegible] of negroes be so happy, and [illegible] useful to mankind! [illegible] according to circumstances, and [illegible] things that are practicable.

[illegible]

I have somewhere said that the greatest objection to this country is the easy means of support that it affords to man, which has a tendency to beget habits of idleness. Some attribute the laziness of men in Texas to the peculiar effects of the climate upon the system; but I believe, and I ought to [illegible] know that such is not the case. The most healthy and [illegible] young men that I ever saw, were the anglo or white natives of Australia, and if ever there were lazier white men than the Australian stock-growers were, then I have not seen them in my travels. The health of Australia is better than that of Texas, for one reason:—its native growth of vegetation is not equal to one third or fourth of that of Texas, and its trees shed a thin scale of their bark instead of a mass of leaves; consequently, there is no vast decay of vegetable matter as in Texas. Therefore, other things equal, the air of Australia must be purer than that of Texas, when first settled. But when the country around the settler, almost anywhere in western Texas, is relieved of its immense annual decay of vegetation, there is then, in the opinion of the writer, no real cause for relaxation of energy in the settler. Pure, wholesome air and water, will never take away a person's energy, nor render him unfit to labor in any country; neither will it make him lazy. But a country that will afford a good living, and make a man rich, without his storing up [illegible] for winter, neither for man nor beast, and is otherwise comparatively easy for the occupant, would very naturally make [illegible] and to excuse himself, it, doubtless well to say that a white man can't work in this climate. The truth is, men can work in Texas as well as in any country, and I sincerely believe that most of the time it is the most delightful climate to labor in that I have ever known, unless a person suffers himself to think that he is in a country where there is not much labor required of him, and indulges himself too much in this way until he begins to think he can't labor. I am well acquainted with foreigners here who have [illegible] of the cultivation of the soil, [illegible] successfully; [illegible] that [illegible] in Texas [illegible] necessarily [illegible] very true, but that he must [illegible] lazy and idle, is absurd. The industrious man who comes here from any country, can conduct his industry as pleasantly and more profitably than in almost any other country.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO HOME INDUSTRY.

Texas has very wisely [illegible] a bill to encourage the establishment of home manufactories within her limits. It is couched in the following terms:

"*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:* That from and after the passage of this act, whenever any person or persons shall commence the construction of any manufacturing establishment, for the manufacture of silk, cotton, or woolen cloths, or for the purpose of manufacturing articles of use or [illegible] of [illegible] company, or [illegible], from the native and an entire [illegible], hence they shall be entitled to [illegible] from the state of Texas, [illegible] sections of land, of 640 acres each, for every $10,000 invested in said manufacturing establishment or establishments, upon the terms and conditions hereinafter prescribed. [illegible] one dollar per acre (should this bill become a law), there is offered $6,400 for every $10,000 invested in manufacturing of different kinds upon certain conditions.

This certainly ought to encourage the immigration of foreign capitalists, and it may occur that it might pay them to look into the matter and see whether it [illegible] a [illegible], and while the conditions of this bill [illegible] to [illegible] I [illegible] get them at hand. [illegible] the establishments to the capitalist, and as there is [illegible] to be a strong and continued [illegible] in Texas, those who accept this proposition [illegible] would be able to [illegible] lands from which they would be doubly [illegible] [illegible] at [illegible], [illegible].

[illegible]

I have stated that the disturbances by Cortinas and his followers upon the Rio Grande would be of short duration. I did not mean to say by this that our difficulties with Mexico and her unsettled factions were at an end, for I believe there never will be any permanent and lasting peace between that country and the United States, until she is in the hands of some other power, or becomes one [illegible] government. In some way. I [illegible] simply meant by saying that all would soon be quiet on the Rio Grande, that Cortinas and all outlaws in that quarter would be driven out of Texas, and that the state would take care of her own frontier in a way that people would be safe anywhere in the settled portions of its limits. [illegible] and [illegible], and they were [illegible] schemes of [illegible] patched up, and [illegible] what [illegible] bright [illegible] ful [illegible] sun [illegible] ferent sphere. [illegible]

Seeing the recent accounts in regard [illegible] tion [illegible] to [illegible] the subject. [illegible] the [illegible] of the United States, [illegible] ple, [illegible] work, [illegible] it, and [illegible] flecting [illegible] and of a broad [illegible], stocked with horses, mules, sheep, etc., abounding in the richest of mines of almost every mineral, and in consequence of this wealth and [illegible] they [illegible] United States, [illegible] possession in some way [illegible] reciprocity of trade [illegible] at present and every body [illegible] trade [illegible] and all [illegible] tion of the [illegible] Yankees [illegible] would be among [illegible] the trade of the country [illegible] their hands? and how they would [illegible] rich cultivating and [illegible] horses, etc., would contribute to the wealth of these [illegible] Happen what will, the people of Mexico are probably to remain in their country until their race shall have become extinct or [illegible], and they are to become more, and [illegible] the cultivation of their more productive [illegible] country, [illegible] the Yankees, being superior merchants and tradesmen, [illegible] and [illegible] Mexico, [illegible] reap the fruits of [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible]. [illegible] but [illegible] of [illegible] country are going, [illegible] and [illegible] com- [illegible] probably work, [illegible] Mexico where [illegible] be [illegible]-day.

[illegible] that the lands of Texas [illegible]. There is so much of them that [illegible] a large portion of them [illegible] invest largely [illegible] could [illegible] the lands, would be [illegible] they all now [illegible] would be without [illegible]. It is [illegible] that Texas has so long [illegible] of the business and intelligent world [illegible] to sheep and wool-growing [illegible], and could she have been occupied by a different people, when Australia was found to be as well adapted to this business, there would no doubt now be at least thirty millions of sheep within her limits, and other stock and business in proportion, and many of the great changes now offering to the world would have been improved long ago.

It will be seen that the [illegible] has been the [illegible] in Texas, and the severity of this winter [illegible] talked of [illegible] a long [illegible] easily live through it [illegible] and with but little [illegible] ing to Texas [illegible]

The death of [illegible] Mexican sheep should not deter people from coming to western Texas, as they will die in any [illegible] cold [illegible] where improved sheep and other stock would hardly feel the cold.

This winter will no doubt [illegible] stock-growers to cut a stock of hay to feed in case of emergency hereafter. It is well enough for stock-growers in any part of Texas to save a stock of prairie hay to feed any animals [illegible] therefore the [illegible] may be [illegible] might not be needed except [illegible] something of the kind [illegible]

In writing a book of this kind, there are many, no doubt, who would say [illegible] about the country of which [illegible] but I have [illegible] the bright side of my subject, believing that none of them would expect to read of a new country that could be [illegible] considered as without an objection. [illegible] differently, and are of different tastes, consequently no new country would be [illegible] as would suit every body at first; but after living in western Texas a while, there are few who would leave it to live in any other country.

In conclusion, I will say that I have tried to treat my subject fairly, and that I have no interest in deceiving people in regard to Texas, neither have I any disposition to do so. I have written simply because I believe western Texas, all things considered, is the most delightful country I ever knew, and that there are tens and hundreds of thousands of people who would be much happier here than where they are; and furthermore, I believe a large emigration of the Anglo-Saxon or American race to this part of the world, would be of incalculable advantage to the country, particularly to the future of degraded Mexico.